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The American Legion Magazine, a leader among national general-interest publications, is published monthly by The American Legion for its 2.7 million members. These wartime veterans, working through 15,000 community-level posts, dedicate themselves to God and Country and traditional American values; strong national security; adequate and compassionate care for veterans, their widows and orphans; community service; and the wholesome development of our nation's youth.

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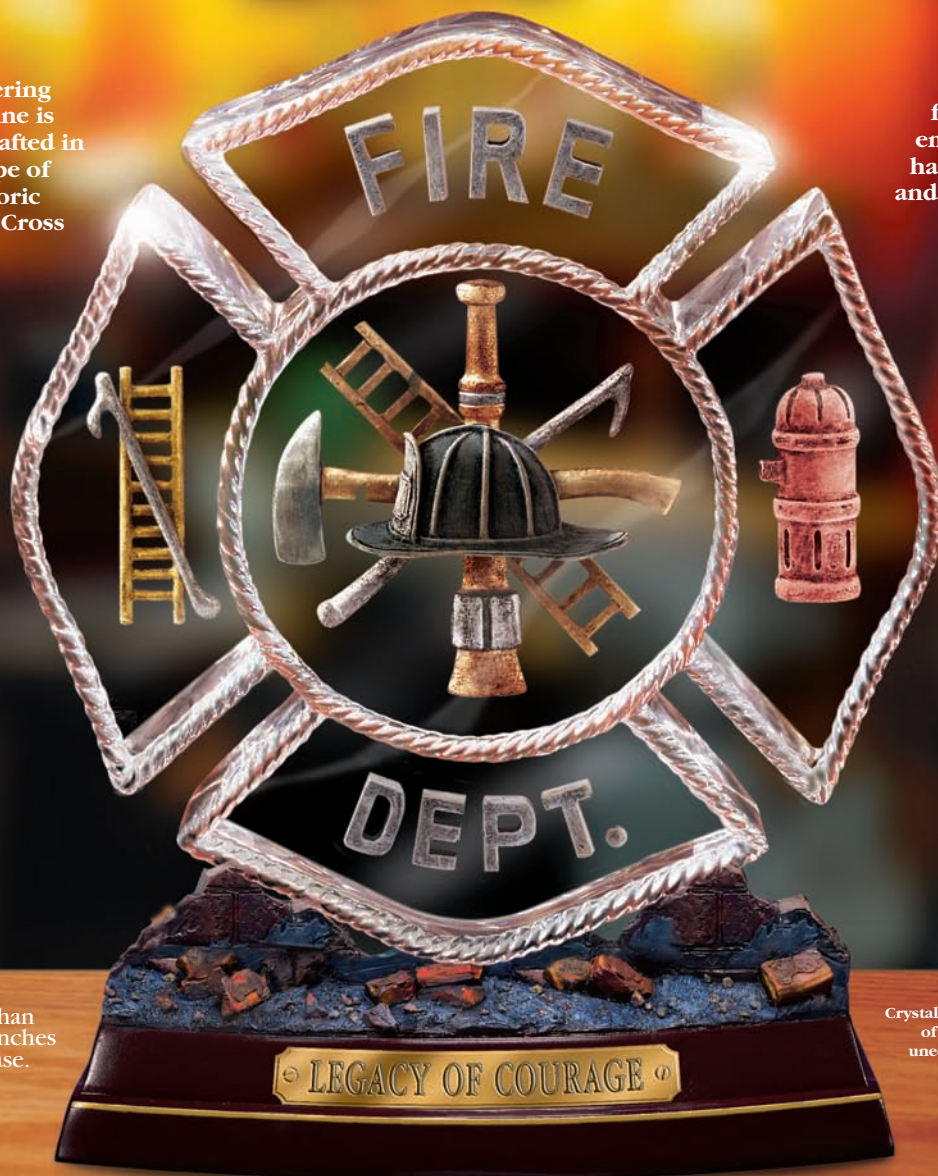


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Unlimited power

Tom Griggs' article "Trial By Fires" (March) is fair and to the point. Having retired after 32 years from the same fire department as Dennis Walsh, I have seen up close and personal the same trials by fire. I'm amused, however, by the statements of Monica Bond of the Center for Biological Diversity: "Our right to appeal projects has been taken away from us" and "We've never said, 'Don't touch the forest.'" The reason our forests are in this situation is directly due to the legal game of holding up prescribed burnings and reasonable loggings with court injunctions and appeals, one after the other. The net result is that nothing is done. Hundreds of thousands of acres burn unnecessarily, private and public structures burn, and lives are lost due to environmental requirements placed on firefighters and their tactics. The unrestricted power of environmentalists needs to be re-evaluated and controlled.



— Ron Patterson, Los Angeles

Next pinup girl?

The photo of Dolly Parton in your March issue is a blockbuster. I've been a fan of this talented lady for a long time. With so many celebrities bashing our president these days, it's refreshing to see a real star profess her love of God, country and our military. Dolly's patriotic costume reminds me of World War II pinup girl Betty Grable. She's a worthy successor.

— George G. Anthony, Boulder City, Nev.

Rest of the story

Congratulations on two fine articles in the March issue, "Baghdad's Untold Story" and "The Rebirth of Iraq." Everyone who loves freedom should read these stories. Too bad they aren't printed in the daily news reports.

— Dick Sutton, Hartford City, Ind.

Positive news

Bravo to Dennis Prager for his "Dear American Soldier in Iraq," Alan W. Dowd for "Baghdad's Untold Story" and Ben Barber for "The Rebirth of Iraq." These articles are the best I've seen in recent days. Most are politically correct drivel on the verge of treason, putting down the job our

commander in chief is doing to save this country and the rest of the world from terrorists.

— Frederick A. Farley, El Paso, Texas

No just war

In regard to Dennis Prager's bizarre and self-serving "letter," I am almost at a loss for words. I am one of those American citizens who fully understands what the Iraq war was about, and it was not

about patriotism or civilization or God, as Prager so pompously writes. Hard as this may be to grasp, a vast number of Americans believe the war was wrong but fully support the troops. By all means, pray for our soldiers; I do every day. But do not ever tell me or any other American what "God's work" is or is not. To use the words "God" and "war" in the same breath is simply obscene.

Although Alan Dowd's "commentary" is hardly as preposterous, I did find that it played rather loosely with the facts. Yes, Saddam did rule Iraq longer than Hitler and Tojo ruled their nations, but perhaps the more important question is why he was allowed to do so for so long. The United States and other Arab nations could easily have deposed Saddam after the first Gulf War. We chose not to.

Dowd constantly refers to the tragedy of Sept. 11, 2001, as justification for the war in Iraq. That worked fine for Afghanistan, but to date no factual links have been proved between the far-right Islamic fundamentalists of al-Qaida and the Baathist Party of Saddam Hussein. Not all Arabs get along. The bugaboo of al-Qaida cannot be used as a postwar excuse for Iraq, nor can weapons of mass destruction. No sane person wants any nation to possess WMDs, but the original justification for war against Saddam just hasn't held up.

— Scott Urbach, Aurora, Colo.

Support our leaders

I wholeheartedly agree with Dennis Prager that Saddam Hussein and his regime were a threat to world peace. Many world leaders, including ours, stood by and watched him commit atrocities that compare to those of Hitler, Stalin and Pol Pot. Whether we find weapons of mass destruction or not isn't the point. In liberating the Iraqi people, we rid the world of a terrible and dangerous fanatic. As Americans, we must support our leaders and troops when our nation strikes against such a threat.

— Dave Spalding, Belle Plaine, Minn.

WE WANT YOUR OPINIONS

The American Legion Magazine welcomes letters concerning articles that appear in the publication. Be sure to include your hometown and a daytime phone number for verification.

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Archaic thinking

After reading Dennis Prager's "Dear American Soldier in Iraq," we were surprised that there are still people who preach the idea that we have a divine manifesto from God anointing us leaders and rulers of the world. We assumed this type of archaic thinking went out with the Crusades. The real paradox to Prager's thesis is that the terrorists we fight think exactly the same way.

— Ronald and Christine Harr, Natalia, Texas

Aiding the enemy

As a Vietnam War veteran and life member of The American Legion, I want to say that the March issue was almost as good as September 2003. I especially liked Dennis Prager's letter to the soldiers and "Baghdad's Untold Story." Our liberal media and politicians are doing all they can in our war on terror to aid the enemy, just like they did with Vietnam. I listen to the rhetoric from John Kerry and a few of the other "blame-America-first" politicians, and I see the same thing I saw in the '70s. These guys are so obsessed with regaining power that they almost seem to hope Bush fails in his quest to defeat terrorism.

— Paul Myers, Duncannon, Pa.

Unfair to Muslims

I am appalled at Dennis Prager's article "Dear American Soldier in Iraq," which was overly biased and unfounded in its accusations of Muslims. He does everything in his power to insinuate a religious war. When he says Muslims are trained "to slit Christians' and Jews' throats" or how Muslims are responsible for burning 13 churches in Nigeria, it is for no reason other than to arouse religiously motivated anger from readers. Prager is entitled to his opinions, but you have a duty to screen what is placed in your magazine and ensure it is not racially, ethnically or religiously motivated trash.

As a Marine infantry officer, I fought from Kuwait to Baghdad and down to Babylon. I was a member of the only Marine

company to patrol the Sunni triangle following the war. I had young Marines under my command. They did not care that the people they fought were Muslims, nor did it matter when they treated the sick or helped the poor. They had a job to do, and they did it. To insinuate that America is fighting a war on Islam – as Prager does – is an offense not only to Muslims but to the men I had the privilege of commanding. If we make our war on terror a war on religion, we play into the enemy's hands.

— Sabir Rashid, Carlsbad, Calif.

Balance 'hawk ways'

The American Legion Magazine needs to look at other points of view. You have not published my other letters because I believe containment in Iraq is better than a war that kills hundreds of American soldiers and thousands of Iraqis. Thanks to containment, NATO has kept the peace in Europe for more than 50 years. Right now in Iraq, we need good armed forces to keep the peace.

In the June 2003 issue, you published an article against the German people by radio talk-show host Dennis Prager. I'm not German, but my wife is half German and her family has been here since the 1850s. Just because Germany has a different concept of how to handle the Iraq problem, you published a hateful article directed at Germany. It takes as good an army to keep the peace as it does to wage war. Balance your hawk ways and listen to other points of view.

— William Paarlberg, Riverside, Ill.

'Old business'

Thank you for the March article "Monumental Trust," which outlines Secretary of the Interior Gale Norton's plans to unite the government and public in preserving America's natural heritage. We should all cooperate and work with her to this end. Norton does have some old business she has inherited that went unmentioned during the interview, namely honoring federal trust agreements with our American

Indians. This problem has been around since 1887. Millions of dollars have been spent in federal litigation costs, fines for contempt-of-court citations and, worst of all, billions of dollars to protect our American Indian entitlements have been lost or unaccounted for from this federal trust. Norton should break ranks from her predecessors and clear her desk of this old business, allowing her more time to devote to issues of the 21st century.

— Robert W. Hess, Malad, Idaho

Big business

Secretary of the Interior Gale Norton and the Bush administration speak with forked tongues. They claim to be concerned with how big a part energy plays in the nation's economy yet have fought time and again to ignore the fuel-economy standards of our automobiles and trucks. In my opinion, they only care about placating big business.

— William Murray, Blairsville, Ga.

Polluted waters

I just received my March issue, and what a picture. We all get to see the Secretary of the Interior Gale Norton with the polluted water of the national refuge. This should be the poster of the year for all the environmental groups, the oil slick on the water and grasses lining the shore.

— Joseph Norris, Urbandale, Iowa

Help troops, families

Thank you so much for giving me a direct way to support our troops. As a Vietnam War veteran, I have felt powerless to contribute to the war effort. The December article on Fisher House and a follow-up reference in the March Commander's Message, "Step Up For Our Troops," gave me just the right avenue. I immediately sent a donation to the family-oriented rehabilitation centers for wounded troops supported by Fisher House. I visited the Web site at FisherHouse.org and was so impressed that I will continue to donate whenever I can.

— Eugene Blackburn, Rome, N.Y.

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Since the Civil War, Memorial Day has been a time to remember those who have faithfully served in America's armed forces, so many of whom made the ultimate sacrifice for the sake of freedom. We must never forget its price. America has paid – often in blood – for the comforts, blessings and prosperity we have today.

We must take time this Memorial Day – as we should every day – to remember all who are defending America in the war against terrorism. Just like their parents, grandparents and great-grandparents before them, these brave young men and women stand in harm's way, upholding the rights of others, advancing freedom and defending America against those who would destroy us.

Throughout history, democracy has been attacked by tyrants, despots and criminals against humanity. When America entered World War II, young men and women proudly fought evil and won. A quiet, deeply rooted sense of patriotic duty compelled them to face two of the most ruthless military machines ever assembled. Even in the face of incredible odds and tremendous losses, this brave generation didn't protest. Before the end of the war, nearly 16 million men and women had entered the U.S. Armed Forces. They fought courageously and served honorably. More than 400,000 were killed. Our GIs gave everything they had, and they asked nothing in return.

In the decades that followed, GIs from all subsequent wars – the Korean War, the Vietnam War, Panama, Grenada, Somalia, the Persian Gulf War, Afghanistan and Iraq – continued in the fine tradition of patriotic service set forth by our dedicated World War II veterans. They set the bar high, and we have tried to uphold their legacy ever since.

This month – nearly 59 years after the end of the war – Americans will recognize this great generation when the National World War II Memorial is dedicated in Washington. The memorial is a tribute to the spirit, sacrifices and commitment of all who served in that war, those who died in battle and the millions of U.S. citizens who supported the effort from home.

The generation that grew up during the Great Depression experienced firsthand real economic hardship. Few Americans owned their own homes; most lived in tenement houses or shacks on isolated

farms. Businesses closed, unemployment soared, and rich and poor alike lost everything. The economic hardships forced families to make tremendous personal sacrifices. But they learned early the value of a dollar and the satisfaction of a hard day's work.

The war effectively put an end to the Great Depression and put America back on its feet with the passing of the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944, better known as the GI Bill of Rights. The GI Bill – composed in a hotel room by former American Legion National Commander Harry W. Colmery – was the catalyst that forever changed America. It provided jobs, educational opportunities, unemployment insurance and home ownership to some 16 million veterans. It became the blueprint for the future of America's economy, the basis for the American dream.

The American Legion has long supported the construction of a national memorial to honor the World War II generation. Numerous Legion resolutions have advanced and helped finance the project, including fundraising resolutions in 1997 and 2001.

No other national memorial has been built specifically to honor the World War II generation. That is perhaps a testament to the humility and values of the generation so often described as America's greatest. The memorial – fine as it is – pales in comparison to the legacy of that generation: the global spread of democracy and free enterprise, and a free and prosperous America.

Tens of thousands of World War II veterans will witness the dedication this month and attend special events sponsored by The American Legion. However, most of these veterans will be unable to attend. Therefore, it's important that the Legion family support dedication activities closer to home. American Legion posts across the nation plan to recognize their communities' World War II veterans by sponsoring prayer breakfasts, walk-a-thons, award ceremonies, community booths and entertainment, along with public viewings of the National World War II Memorial Dedication.

It is our wish as veterans that when future generations view the National World War II Memorial in Washington, they will come to understand the tremendous price each generation has paid for America's – and the world's – freedom. May we never forget.



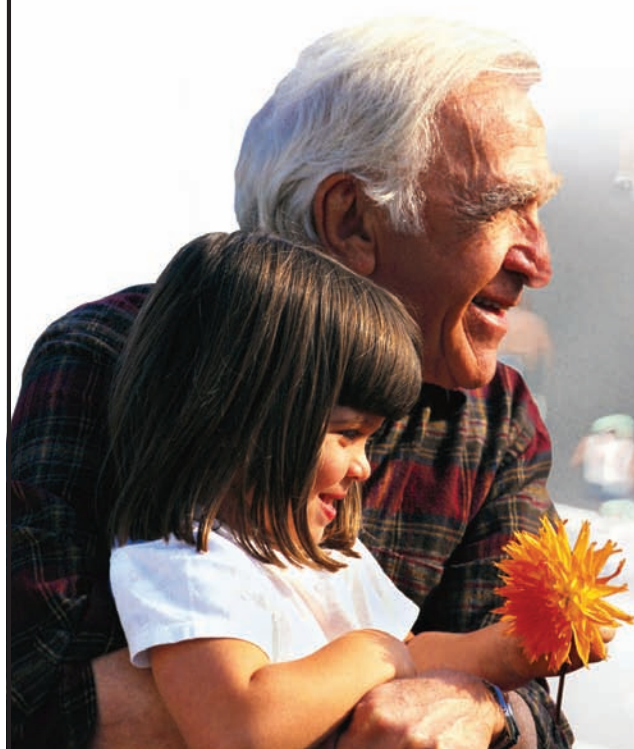
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The American Legion and Children's Miracle Network have teamed up to host community walkathons throughout our country on Saturday, May 29. This event will honor our World War II veterans by raising money to protect their most important legacy: America's children.



If you are unable to participate in a community walkathon, or if one is not scheduled in your area, you can still donate to help our nation's kids by calling 866-539-2509, visiting our secure web site at www.legion.org/ww2, or by mailing your check to:

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Guest-worker program

SUPPORT

Rep. David Dreier
R-Calif.



In 1986, Congress passed the most comprehensive reform in decades to our nation's immigration laws. Congress again enacted legislation in 1996 designed to further tighten our borders and increase penalties on those illegally living in the United States.

Two decades later, the results are hardly promising. By most estimates, our undocumented population continues to grow by almost 250,000 a year, numbering around 10 million today. Despite a more than eightfold spending increase for the Immigration and Naturalization

Service and twice as many Border Patrol agents, the overwhelming sense is that change in our immigration system is badly needed.

"Deploying the army to the border would divert resources from other important concerns."

President Bush's proposal seeks to provide a comprehensive guest-worker program

that will encourage newly documented workers to cooperate fully with law enforcement, drain the demand for fraudulent identification documents, smuggling networks and other criminal activities, and allow the government to devote more resources to keeping terrorists out of the country.

The president's proposal does not include amnesty. I voted against the 1986 law because it included amnesty, and I will continue to oppose efforts that reward those who break our nation's laws by allowing them to jump ahead of those who play by the rules.

We know that the status quo is unsustainable. We also know that deporting every undocumented alien is impossible. Deploying the army to the border would divert resources from other important law-enforcement and national-security concerns and impose a huge cost in terms of tax dollars, economic output and freedom.

Our world and our country are changing at a rapid pace in the new century. It's my hope that the president's initial proposal will lead us to a solution that takes into account all the critical issues of homeland security, economic growth on both sides of the border, and a legal framework that is fair but firm.

Rep. Tom Tancredo
R-Colo.

OPPOSE



One basic flaw with the president's proposal is its offer of amnesty to millions of people who have violated federal law. The president says his proposal is not amnesty for illegal aliens already in the country, but he can say this only by redefining amnesty as a path to citizenship and by using catchphrases like "regularization" and "normalization" to soften the phrase. Linguistic gymnastics notwithstanding, permitting 9 million to 12 million illegal aliens to obtain legal status in this country without criminal penalty is, by definition, amnesty.

The core of the Bush proposal is to offer "renewable" three-year visas for "temporary" work in the United States, but this is disingenuous at best.

Few, if any, "temporary" workers will ever return to their home country. Why should they? History tells us that meaningful enforcement of these limits will be weak and ineffectual. Forty percent of illegals in the country are illegal because they overstayed their visas.

The president has said the goal of the program is to "match willing employers with willing workers." I have news for him: there are at least 1 billion "willing workers" across the planet who would gladly take jobs at lower wages than Americans now doing those jobs. The president's plan places no limit on the number of such guest workers. No job is beneath hard-working Americans, just jobs that pay too little to support their families.

Millions of jobs are being depressed by this flow of cheap labor, primarily from Central America.

As a result of the federal government's failure to protect our borders, state taxpayers have been unfairly required to pick up illegal immigration's tab. It also has forced Americans and legal

residents to live in a country that puts them at risk to potential terrorists who can easily seep through porous borders. Any immigration reform plan that does not secure the border should be viewed as a failure of Congress and this administration.

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America's Saving Grace

The freedom to choose goodness is the key to true virtue.

BY DINESH D'SOUZA

Behind the physical attacks on the West and its allies is an intellectual attack – an assault not just on what America does but also on what America is. So far, the U.S. government's military response – in Afghanistan, in Iraq and elsewhere – has been reasonably effective against terrorism and its sponsors. But our intellectual response has been weak. This matters because ultimately it is not enough to shut down the al-Qaida training camps. We must also stop the “jihad factories,” the mosques and educational institutions that are turning out tens of thousands of aspiring terrorists and suicide bombers. We cannot kill all these people; we have to change their minds. Yet America is making few converts in the Muslim world.

The problem is that we have not effectively answered the strongest version of the Islamic critique of the United States. Usually Americans seek to defend their society by appealing to its shared principles. Thus our leaders remind us that America is a free society, or a prosperous society, or a diverse and pluralistic culture, or a nation that gives women the same rights as men. The most intelligent Islamic critics acknowledge all this, but they dismiss it as worthless triviality.

One of the leading theoreticians of Islamic fundamentalism is Egyptian thinker Sayyid Qutb, who has been called “the brains behind bin Laden.” Like the terrorists who destroyed the World Trade Center, Qutb was a

man who lived in the West and knew its ways. After studying in America, he wrote a book called “The America That I Saw,” in which he argued that his familiarity with the United States was his basis for rejecting it. Qutb wrote that he was shocked by the rampant prejudice of Americans, especially toward Arabs and Muslims. He professed outrage at the materialism and sexual promiscuity of American culture. Even the church, Qutb commented, has become a place for amusement and social interaction rather than worship.

In his later writings, Qutb alleged that America used to be Christian; now it is pagan. The Muslim believer, he wrote, has no reason to envy or emulate

the ways of America; rather, true Muslims should feel contempt for those ways. “The believer from his height looks down at the people drowning in dirt and mud.”

How in Qutb's view did America reach its sorry state? One problem, Qutb said, is that American and indeed Western institutions are fundamentally atheist, based on a clear rejection of divine authority. Democracy and capitalism are, in Qutb's view, atheistic ideas. When democrats say sovereignty flows from the people, this means that the people – not God – are the rulers. So democracy is a form of idol worship. So, too, Qutb insisted that capitalism – which is based on the notion that the market,

"In theocratic societies such as Afghanistan under the Taliban or Iran today, the absence of freedom signals the absence of virtue.

This is the argument that Americans should make to people in the Islamic world."

and not God, is the best arbitrator of value – is a form of idolatry.

A second problem, Qutb wrote, is that the core principle of America is liberty – the right to determine one's own destiny. This, he argued, is a highly defective principle. The reason is that liberty can be used well or liberty can be used badly. Given what Immanuel Kant called "the warped timber of humanity," given the human propensity for selfishness and vice, Qutb argued that freedom often will be used badly.

For evidence of this, he said, just look at what goes on in America. Qutb pointed to divorce, family breakdown, homosexuality, promiscuity, and the triviality and vulgarity of American popular culture as proof that human beings cannot be expected to use freedom except to gratify their basest impulses. Indeed, Qutb sternly charged that America is materially prosperous but morally rotten. In a famous formulation that has stirred up widespread debate in the Muslim world, Qutb insisted that the West is a once-religious civilization that has now been reduced to what he termed "jahiliyya," the condition of social chaos, moral diversity, sexual permissiveness, polytheism, unbelief and idolatry said to characterize the Bedouin tribes before the advent of Islam.

Qutb's alternative to America and the West is Islam, which in his book "Social Justice in Islam" he terms "an unparalleled revolution in human thinking" that provides the only solution to "this unhappy, perplexed, and weary world." Islam, Qutb emphasized, is not merely a moral code or set of beliefs; it is a way of life based upon the divine government of the universe. The

very term "Islam" means "submission" to the authority of Allah. This worldview requires that religious, economic, political and civil society be based on the Koran, the teachings of the prophet Muhammad, and *sharia*, or Islamic law. Islam regulates religious belief and practice but also the administration of the state, the conduct of war, the making of treaties, divorce and inheritance, property rights and contracts. In short, advocates of Islamic fundamentalism like Qutb seek to bring the whole framework of human life under divine – which is to say, Islamic – supervision.

Qutb admits that notions of "submission" and obedience may sound alien to Western ears. In his view, this is because Western society is based on freedom, whereas Islamic society is based on virtue. Qutb gives an example of what he means by Islamic virtue. Islamic classical tradition tells the story of a man and a woman who came to the prophet Muhammad and said, "Messenger of Allah, purify us."

Muhammad asked, "From what am I to purify you?"

They replied, "From adultery."

Muhammad asked the two people whether they were insane or drunk. Assured that they were not, Muhammad asked them again, "What have you done?"

They confessed that they had committed adultery. Then Muhammad gave the order, and the two were stoned to death. While the couple was being buried, onlookers scorned them, but Muhammad chided the scoffers. The couple had repented, he said, and now they were with Allah.

"This is Islam," Qutb wrote. Analyzing the incident, he pointed out that no one had

witnessed the adultery, and the prophet initially sought to attribute the couple's confession to the influence of alcohol or mental disturbance. Still, they had persisted. Finally Muhammad had no choice but to have them stoned in accordance with God's law. Qutb posed an interesting question: why did the couple demand to be stoned? His answer: "It was the desire to be purified of a crime of which none save Allah was cognizant. It was the shame of meeting Allah unpurified from a sin which they had committed."

This, in brief, is Qutb's defense of Islamic theocracy. Islamic societies may be poor, Qutb admitted, but at least they seek to implement the will of God. Even if we are failing at this, Qutb said, at least we are trying. And that, he concluded, makes Islamic society superior to Western society.

How should we in America evaluate, and answer, Qutb's critique? We need to take Qutb's views seriously, partly because they are taken seriously in the Islamic world and partly because, for all his vehemence, Qutb is raising deep and fundamental questions. Indeed, in some respects, the Islamic critique as exemplified by Qutb is similar to the critique that the classical philosophers, including Plato and Aristotle, made of freedom. The classical thinkers would have agreed with Qutb that virtue, not freedom, is the ultimate goal of a good society. And in saying this they would be quite right. How, then, can the Islamic argument against America be answered on its own terms?

Let us concede at the outset that in a free society freedom will often be used badly. The Islamic critics have a point when

*"The highest form of patriotism is based on
loving your country because it is good."*

they deplore our high crime and illegitimacy rates and the triviality and vulgarity of our popular culture. Indeed, some Americans may be tempted to say, "The Muslims have a point about 'The Jerry Springer Show.' If they will agree to stop bombing our buildings in exchange for us sending them Springer to do with as they wish, why not make the deal? We could even throw in some of Springer's guests."

On a less facetious note, we should not be surprised by the considerable amount of vice, license and vulgarity in a free society. Freedom by definition includes freedom to do good or evil, to act nobly or basely. Given the warped timber of humanity, freedom becomes the forum for the expression of human flaws and weaknesses. On this point, Qutb and his fundamentalist followers are quite correct.

But if freedom brings out the worst in people, it also brings out the best. The millions of Americans who live decent, praiseworthy lives deserve our highest admiration because they have opted for the good when the good is not the only available option. Even amid the temptations that a rich and free society offers, they have remained on the straight path. Their virtue has special luster because it is freely chosen. The free society does not guarantee virtue any more than it guarantees happiness. But it allows for the pursuit of both – a pursuit rendered all the more meaningful and profound because success is not guaranteed but has to be won through personal striving.

By contrast, the theocratic and authoritarian society that Islamic fundamentalists advocate undermines the possibility of virtue. If the supply of virtue is insufficient in free societies, it is almost nonexistent in Islamic societies. Coerced virtues are not virtues at all. Consider the

woman in Afghanistan or Iran who is required to wear the veil. There is no real modesty in this, because the woman is being compelled. Compulsion cannot produce virtue; it can only produce the outward semblance of virtue.

Indeed, once the reins of coercion are released – as they were for the Sept. 11 terrorists – the worst impulses of human nature break loose. Sure enough, the deeply religious terrorists spent their last days in gambling dens, bars and strip clubs, sampling the licentious lifestyle they were about to strike out against. In this respect they were like the Spartans who, Plutarch tells us, were abstemious in public but privately coveted wealth and luxury. In theocratic societies such as Afghanistan under the Taliban or Iran today, the absence of freedom signals the absence of virtue.

This is the argument that Americans should make to people in the Islamic world. It is a mistake to presume that Muslims would be totally unresponsive to it. Islam, which has common roots with Judaism and Christianity, respects the autonomy of the individual soul. Salvation for Muslims, no less than for Jews and Christians, is based on the soul freely choosing to follow God. We can make the case to Muslims that freedom is not a secular invention; rather, freedom is a gift from God. Moreover, it is not the case that Islamic fundamentalists care about virtue while we in the West care only about freedom. We, too, care about virtue; like them, we seek the good society. We disagree with the Islamic fundamentalists about the best means to achieve this goal. In the Western view, freedom is the necessary precondition for virtue. Without freedom, there is no virtue. I believe this is an argument that well-meaning Muslims

would have to consider.

The arguments on behalf of freedom, and of America, are not only for the benefit of Muslims in the Arab world; they are also for the benefit of people in America and the West. To help counter the anti-Americanism we see from Europeans and sometimes even from Americans, we can confidently show our allies, our citizens and our idealistic young people that America is not simply richer, more varied and more tolerant, it is also morally superior to the fundamentalists' version of Islamic society. It was Edmund Burke who wrote long ago "To love our country, our country ought to be lovely." Burke's point is that the highest form of patriotism is not based on the dogmatic assertion, "My country, right or wrong." Nor is the highest form of patriotism based on loving your country simply because it is yours. Rather, the highest form of patriotism is based on loving your country because it is good.

In my view, America, for all its flaws and weaknesses, can meet Burke's test. America merits a rational patriotism that can confront and answer the strongest criticisms of this country. Ultimately, America is worthy of our love and sacrifice because, more than any other society, it makes possible for its citizens the good life – and equally important, the life that is good. ☞

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Illustration: Michael Gibbs

Article design: Holly K. Soria

The Power to Protect

In the post-Sept. 11 era, the Coast Guard fulfills a duty of many dimensions.



Three members of the Coast Guard Maritime Safety and Security Team patrol New York Harbor near the Statue of Liberty. **U.S. Coast Guard**

In today's era of asymmetric warfare, the protection of some 95,000 square miles of vulnerable American coastline presents a daunting challenge. Nuclear power plants, oil refineries, factories, airports, military bases and major cities hug the shores of the waterways of our nation. Ninety-five percent of U.S. overseas trade moves through 361 American ports. Vessels of all size and dimension from all corners of the planet come and go. The list of potential coastal targets for U.S. enemies in the war on terror is nearly as extensive as the list of ways in which national security could be breached along our oceanic borders.

In "The Art of War," the ancient military strategist Sun Tzu wrote that "the spot where we intend to fight must not be made known; for then the enemy will have to prepare against a possible attack at several different points." That is precisely the kind of multiple-point preparation now undertaken by today's U.S. Coast Guard, which since the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, has had its role amplified in ways unseen since World War II.

The Coast Guard is a critical partner for many U.S. security elements, from the local to the international level. It is the primary federal agency responsible for maritime protection under the Department of Homeland Security. The Maritime Transportation Security Act of 2002 added new emphasis on a traditional Coast Guard mission: port security. The Coast Guard collaborates with agencies ranging from the Maine Marine Patrol to the New York Police Department to Immigration and Customs Enforcement. The Coast Guard and Customs jointly board ships to search cargo and containers, along the way reducing with unprecedented effectiveness the number of stowaways and absconders, crewmembers who simply walk away from their ships. Before Sept. 11, 2001, surprisingly little attention was

paid to that particular method of illegal immigration.


The transfer of most Navy PC-170 patrol boats to Coast Guard operations has substantially helped the service perform its expanded duties. The patrol boats are augmented with seven-member Coast Guard Law Enforcement Teams that are trained to board high-interest vessels before they reach American shores. The Coast Guard also has a more active part than ever in the international intelligence community, in partnership with the Office of Naval Intelligence in establishing Maritime Intelligence Fusion Centers both on the Atlantic and Pacific coasts, and through its own Field Intelligence Support Teams, known appropriately as FIST. The Coast Guard Investigative Service works with local law-enforcement

partners to buffer America from terrorist attack. And the Coast Guard is uniquely capable of gathering information and tracking vessels from long range, uniting with international

maritime partners, and stopping terrorism dead in the water. The strategic relationship between the Department of Defense and the Coast Guard further includes providing escorts and pier-side security for ship deployment in Operation Iraqi Freedom at 11 different on-load ports on the east and west coasts. Coast Guard Commandant Adm. Tom Collins said at the Naval War College's 2003 International Seapower Symposium that collaboration with multiple agencies, organizations and industry is central to the service's evolving identity. "At the international level, an integrated approach among all international maritime partners can improve the security and safety of all

nations and protect their economies," he said. "Strong international regulations through the (International Maritime Organization) and steadfast compliance efforts by all classification societies will help harden individual ships from terrorist activity. Programs like the Proliferation Security Initiative and related long-range ship-tracking and surveillance initiatives will reduce security risks. Sharing of security, safety, commercial and law-enforcement information can create global maritime domain awareness that allows nations to create layered, multi-agency, integrated maritime security defenses to combat the threats of terrorists and transnational criminals."

During the past two years, the Coast Guard has commissioned



"The Coast Guard is a critical partner for many U.S. security elements, from the local to the international level."

seven new 100-person Maritime Safety and Security Teams (MSSTs) – often described as maritime SWAT teams – in port cities including New York; Norfolk, Va.; Houston; Seattle; Los Angeles; and Boston. The teams are highly trained in homeland security, waterborne escort, maritime law enforcement and special security. The Coast Guard's new Helicopter Interdiction Tactical Squadron also has significantly tightened port security and deterred illegal drug traffic. Helicopters armed with machine guns and sharpshooters can provide accurate delivery of fire in a congested port environment if necessary.

It is a multilayered operation, a "defense-in-depth" strategy that

has pushed outward U.S. maritime borders, reduced vulnerabilities, preserved the free flow of trade and attained levels of national security that were unheard of before Sept. 11, 2001. New port-security requirements have been a tall order for the Coast Guard, but with essential support from Auxiliary and Reserve components, it's an order the service is fulfilling swiftly and efficiently.

But this is not exactly new territory for the Coast Guard, which initially became involved in port security by virtue of the Espionage Act of 1917. That law gave the service "powers to prevent sabotage at the nation's harbors." Following that was the Magnuson Act of 1950, which provided "authority for the protection of harbors, ports and waterway facilities" through the Coast Guard Captain of the Port. The Ports and Waterways Safety Act later created security zones and the requirement of advance-arrival notification for incoming merchant vessels. Most recently, the Maritime Transportation Security Act 2002, which goes into effect in July, emphasizes security-plan development and review, relationships with the commercial shipping industry, and other responsibilities.

Three primary planks in the Coast Guard's strategy for reducing risks at ports are:

- Preventing attacks.
- Reducing vulnerability.
- Minimizing damage and recovery.

The Coast Guard's response plans are now being integrated into a single, all-discipline, all-hazard national response plan, the initial draft of which was released last September. The plan is designed to unify government and non-government public-safety organizations to build a comprehensive national incident-management system – a pooling of resources and response capabilities.



Coast Guard Petty Officer Brett Patterson, crewmember of the Helicopter Interdiction Tactical Squadron, mans an M-240 machine gun from a Stingray MH-68A helicopter during a homeland-security patrol. **U.S. Coast Guard**

The MTSA also ushers in several additional Coast Guard functions designed to reduce maritime risks, including:

- Port-threat profiles and vulnerability assessments. Threat profiles will be created to evaluate risk at 55 critical ports around the country. Also, approximately 10,000 vessels and 5,000 facilities are subject to vulnerability assessments, to be conducted by the owners, along with the development of security plans for Coast Guard review and approval.
- Industry response plans. Key industrial sectors will be required to develop security-incident response plans, subject to Coast Guard review and approval.
- Automatic identification systems. Detailed ship information allowing the tracking of vessels within U.S. waters will improve maritime domain awareness.
- Extension of seaward jurisdiction. The MTSA extends certain Coast Guard authorities as far as 12 nautical miles offshore, allowing the service to obtain information about incoming vessels farther out at sea, with authority to exercise protective actions and measures.

Three main areas of emphasis

in the Coast Guard's future are maritime domain awareness which will broaden the service's ability to collect data, analyze it and assess conditions and trends, increased teamwork with industry on port security, and continued efforts to improve secure communications with other Department of Homeland Security partners in Customs and Border Patrol.

New Coast Guard capabilities, new plans, new emphases on traditional roles, and new international and inter-agency partnerships are forging a shield of national security that is making America safer than it was not only before Sept. 11, 2001, but perhaps safer than it has ever been in history. But while many successful miles have been logged, the voyage is far from over. And every day, the U.S. Coast Guard is making our ports safer, more secure, and less attractive to any terrorist who might like to test them. 🇺🇸

Vice Adm. Jim Hull is Commander Coast Guard Atlantic Area. Joe DiRenzo III is Coast Guard Atlantic Area's anti-terrorism coordinator.

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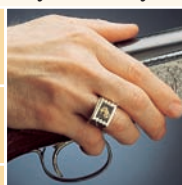
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A Deficit of Decency

Americans are impatient with decline in morality.

U.S. Sen. Zell Miller, D-Ga., delivered the following statement on the floor of the Senate on Feb. 12, addressing several social issues facing the country:

The Old Testament prophet Amos was a sheep herder who lived back in the Judean hills, away from the larger cities of Bethlehem and Jerusalem. Compared to the intellectual urbanites like Isaiah and Jeremiah, he was just an unsophisticated country hick.

But Amos had a unique grasp of political and social issues, and his poetic literary skill was among the best of all the prophets. That familiar quote of Martin Luther King Jr. about “Justice will rush down like waters and righteousness like a mighty stream” are Amos’ words.

Amos was the first to propose the concept of a universal God and not just some tribal deity. He also wrote that God demanded moral purity, not rituals and sacrifices. This blunt-speaking moral conscience of his time warns in chapter 8, verse 11 of the Book of Amos, as if he were speaking to us today:

That “the days will come, sayeth the Lord God, that I will send a famine in the land. Not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the word of the Lord. And they shall wander from sea to sea, and from the north even to the east. They shall run to and fro to seek the word of the Lord, and shall not find it.”

“A famine in the land.” Has anyone more accurately described the situation we face in America today? “A famine of hearing the words of the Lord.”



Kid Rock performs during the Super Bowl XXXVIII halftime show in Houston. **AP**

But some will say, Amos was just an Old Testament prophet – a minor one at that – who lived 700 years before Christ. That is true. So how about one of the most influential historians of modern times?

Arnold Toynbee, who wrote the acclaimed 12-volume “A Study of History,” once declared, “Of the 22 civilizations that have appeared in history, 19 of them collapsed when they reached the moral state America is in today.”

Toynbee died in 1975, before seeing the worst that was yet to

come. Yes, Arnold Toynbee saw the famine. The “famine of hearing the words of the Lord.” Whether it is removing a display of the Ten Commandments from a Courthouse or the Nativity Scene from a city square, whether it is eliminating prayer in schools or eliminating “under God” in the Pledge of Allegiance, whether it is making a mockery of the sacred institution of marriage between a man and woman or, yes, telecasting around the world made-in-the-U.S.A. filth masquerading as entertainment.

The culture of far-left America was displayed in a startling way during the Super Bowl's now-infamous halftime show, a show brought to us courtesy of ValueLes Moonves and the pagan temple of Viacom-Babylon.

I asked the question yesterday, "How many of you have ever run over a skunk with your car?" I have many times, and I can tell you the stink stays around for a long time. You can take the car through a car wash and it's still there. So the scent of this event will long linger in the nostrils of America.

I'm not talking just about an exposed mammary gland with a pull-tab attached to it. Really, no one should have been too surprised at that. Wouldn't one expect a bumping, humping, trashy routine entitled "I'm going to get you naked" to end that way?

Does any responsible adult ever listen to the words of this rap crap? I'd quote you some of it, but the sergeant-of-arms would throw me out of here, as well he should. And then there was that prancing, dancing, strutting, rutting guy evidently suffering from jock itch, because he kept yelling and grabbing his crotch. But then, maybe there's a crotch-grabbing culture I've unaware of.

But as bad as all this was, the thing that yanked my chain the hardest was seeing that ignoramus with his pointed head stuck up through a hole he had cut in the flag of the United States of America, screaming about having "a bottle of scotch and watching lots of crotch." Think about that.

This is the same flag that we pledge allegiance to. This is the flag that is draped over coffins of dead, young, uniformed warriors killed while protecting Kid Crock's bony butt. He should be tarred and feathered and ridden out of this country on a rail. Talk about a good reality show, there's one for you.

The desire and will of this Congress to meaningfully do anything about any of these so-called social issues is nonexistent and embarrassingly disgraceful.

The American people are waiting and growing impatient with us. They want something done.

I am pleased to be a co-sponsor of S.J. Res. 26, along with Sen. Wayne Allard (R-Colo.) and others, proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relating to marriage, and S.1558, the Liberties Restoration Act, which declares religious liberty rights in several ways, including the Pledge of Allegiance and the display of the Ten Commandments. And today I join Sen. Richard Shelby (R-Ala.) and others with the Constitution Restoration Act of 2004 that limits the jurisdiction of federal courts in certain ways.

In doing so, I stand shoulder to shoulder not only with my Senate co-sponsors and Chief Justice Roy Moore of Alabama but, more importantly, with our founding fathers in the conception of religious liberty and the terribly wrong direction our modern judiciary has taken us in.

Everyone today seems to think that the U.S. Constitution expressly provides for separation of church and state. Ask any 10 people if that's not so. And I'll bet you most of them will say "Well, sure." And some will point out, "It's in the First Amendment."

Wrong! Read it! It says, "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof." Where is the word "separate"? Where are the words "church" or "state"?

They are not there, never have been. Never intended to be. Read the congressional records during that four-month period in 1789 when the amendment was being framed in Congress. Clearly their intent was to prohibit a single denomination in exclusion of all others, whether it was Anglican or Catholic or some other.

I highly recommend a great book entitled "Original Intent" by David Barton. It really gets into how the actual members of Congress, who drafted the First Amendment, expected basic biblical principles and values to be present throughout public life

and society, not separate from it.

It was Alexander Hamilton who pointed out that "judges should be bound down by strict rules and precedents, which serve to define and point out their duty." Bound down! That is exactly what is needed to be done. There was not a single precedent cited when school prayer was struck down in 1962.

These judges who legislate instead of adjudicate do it without being responsible to one single solitary voter for their actions. Among the signers of the Declaration of Independence was a brilliant young physician from Pennsylvania named Benjamin Rush.

When Rush was elected to that First Continental Congress, his close friend Benjamin Franklin told him, "We need you ... we have a great task before us, assigned to us by Providence." Today, 228 years later, there is still a great task before us assigned to us by Providence. Our founding fathers did not shirk their duty, and we can do no less.

By the way, Benjamin Rush was once asked a question that has long interested this senator from Georgia in particular. Dr. Rush was asked, "Are you a democrat or an aristocrat?" And the good doctor answered, "I am neither. I am a Christocrat. I believe He alone, who created and redeemed man, is qualified to govern him." That reply of Benjamin Rush is just as true today in the year of our Lord 2004 as it was in the year of our Lord 1776.

So, if I am asked why – with all the pressing problems this nation faces today – why am I pushing these social issues and taking the Senate's valuable time? I will answer: because, it is of the highest importance. Yes, there's a deficit to be concerned about in this country: a deficit of decency.

So, as the sand empties through my hourglass at warp speed – and with my time running out in this Senate and on this earth – I feel compelled to speak out. For I truly believe that at times like this, silence is not golden. It is yellow. 🌻



TIED DOWN

ICC could string up U.S. foreign policy.

BY ALAN W. DOWD

It's difficult to fault the motives of those who believe the world needs an international criminal court to combat genocide, war crimes and other crimes against humanity. For that matter, it's difficult to argue with the rationale for such a body.

Genocide has deformed the very ethnic composition of mankind. Sadly, it's as old as the concept of nationhood itself. Pharaoh tried to control the Israelites by exterminating their infant sons; other ancients did even worse. In our own time,

Saddam Hussein carried out an internal genocide against his people. Slobodan Milosevic erased the lives of 250,000 Bosnian Muslims and Croat Catholics in a war of aggression. Sudanese Muslims have killed some 2 million Sudanese Christians. In the span of 100 days in 1994, 800,000 Tutsis were macheted to death by rival Hutu clans in Rwanda.

These latter-day monsters are just pale imitations of those who roamed the earth in the first 75 years of the 20th century. Lenin, Stalin and their heirs killed some 61 million. Hitler used Moscow's terror to justify his own, killing 21 million people, including 6 million Jews, in an orgy of war crimes. In China, Mao Tse-tung killed 37 million people. In

Cambodia, Pol Pot murdered 2.4 million. In North Korea, Kim Il Sung butchered 1.6 million. In Yugoslavia, Tito would claim 1.1 million lives. In Ethiopia, the toll was 725,000. And the list goes on.

Incredibly, most of the men responsible for these horrors escaped justice. As one human-rights advocate observed, "A person stands a better chance of being tried for killing one human being than for killing a hundred thousand."

Yet if the motives and rationale of ICC supporters are sound, their chosen method for combating man's inhumanity to man is not. In fact, by seeking to constrain the world's sole superpower and by accentuating a split within the West, the



nascent U.N. court is doing more harm than good.

As Predicted. Between 1998 and 2002, two different U.S. administrations labored to improve the treaty that spawned the International Criminal Court, and for good reason:

Under the treaty's hazy definitions, war crimes include:

- "Extensive destruction and appropriation of property."
- Depriving "a prisoner of war ... of the rights of fair and regular trial."
- Launching an attack "in the knowledge that such attack will cause incidental loss of life or injury to civilians or damage to civilian objects."
- Employing weapons intended to cause "superfluous or unnecessary suffering."

Depriving an identifiable group of "fundamental rights" could be considered a crime against humanity, as could "causing great suffering or serious injury to body or to mental or physical health."

The ICC treaty broadens the definition of genocide to include "causing serious bodily or mental harm" with the intent to destroy members of a specific ethnic, national or religious group. It criminalizes the act of aggression but fails to define it.

To his credit, President Clinton ordered America's representatives to the treaty-writing conference to vote against the final document. The U.S. delegation wasn't concerned about Americans committing these crimes but rather about Americans being falsely accused of committing such crimes. The Clinton administration also worried that the ICC could be flooded with spurious claims that would "embroil the court in controversy, political decision-making and confusion." To remedy both concerns and address the specific issues described above, the U.S. delegation proposed that permanent members of the U.N. Security Council be granted the power to veto an ICC prosecution. Those proposals were rejected.

Although Clinton ended up signing the treaty two years later, he refused to send it to the Senate "until our fundamental

concerns are satisfied." Those concerns were still unaddressed when the treaty came into force in mid-2002, which is why President George W. Bush disavowed it. His administration echoed some of the Clinton administration's concerns: without better safeguards, Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld warned, the ICC would force the United States to "become cautious, more limited, some would say isolationist."

Ambassador for War Crimes Pierre Prosper noted that "there is a real possibility that someone will use the ICC for political purposes and exploit the process." Undersecretary of State Marc Grossman called the ICC "an institution of unchecked power," thanks to its rejection of an oversight role for the U.N. Security Council.

Perhaps the only thing surprising about the ICC's first year is how quickly America's predictions came to pass.

■ Before the dust even settled in Baghdad, a handful of Iraqis tried to take U.S. Gen. Tommy Franks to the ICC for war crimes. Among their charges were that American forces fired upon an ambulance, attacked civilian vehicles, bombed a Baghdad market, attacked a bus and failed to stop postwar looting. The ICC had no

jurisdiction over the case since the United States is not party to the treaty, but Belgian attorney Jan Fermon tried to force the case into the Belgian courts, which claim “universal jurisdiction” over virtually anything. The Belgian government refused to take up the case and instead referred the complaint to the United States. Even so, the suit validated Washington’s concerns.

■ Greek lawyers filed suit in the ICC against British Prime Minister Tony Blair and other members of his government. Claiming that the Iraq war violated the U.N. Charter, Geneva Convention and Rome Treaty (which spawned the ICC), the suit blamed Blair for killing civilians, depriving people of potable water, destroying food shipments and targeting residential areas. Detailing 110 violations of international law, the plaintiffs promise to call U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan, former U.N. weapons inspector Hans Blix and European Union officials to testify against Blair.

■ All told, some 500 complaints were brought before the ICC in its first year, 40 of which accuse the U.S.-led coalition of “aggression” against Iraq and 16 of which cite the United States for criminal action. The ICC has but one prosecutor to handle claims.

License for War. Some argue that as long as the United States refuses to ratify the treaty, Americans will remain beyond the ICC’s reach. But that’s not necessarily true. Although non-ICC countries are shielded from suits filed by organizations, groups or individuals, if a member of the U.N. Security Council refers an allegation to the ICC prosecutor – even if the accused is a citizen or official from a non-ICC country – the case can be tried under the Rome Treaty. As a review by the Congressional Research Service concluded, this loophole empowers the ICC to “exercise jurisdiction over a U.S. citizen.”

Hence, it is not really the United States imposing its will on other countries but rather the ICC that’s trying to impose its will on

the United States. That presents a serious problem for the United States and the United Nations.

Whether the United Nations and its new court like it or not, the United States has become the guarantor of global stability. U.S. troops keep the peace in the Balkans and the rest of Europe, in Korea and the Pacific, in the Persian Gulf and Central Asia. In many cases the United States doesn’t even seek the responsibility: in Liberia, Somalia, and Haiti, for example, the United Nations came to the United States.

The ICC’s founders may refuse to recognize America’s special role, but by turning to Washington when civil war breaks out in Liberia, or nuclear weapons sprout up in North Korea, or peacekeepers are needed in the Sinai, they are tacitly conceding that the United States is, in fact, special. As Johns Hopkins professor Fouad Ajami sighs, “The world rails against the United States, yet embraces its protection, its gossip and its hipness.”

In fact, as of 2004, Washington has defense-treaty commitments with 50 countries; the U.S. military is the last (and first) line of defense for dozens of others. This role of stabilizer and honest broker expands daily in the war on terror, with U.S. forces now deployed in more than 100 countries. Since ICC officials won’t grant the United States exemptions to carry out this function, Washington is taking matters into its own hands:

■ Using an ICC loophole to their advantage, U.S. diplomats are hammering out side agreements with scores of countries to protect U.S. troops from ICC prosecution. Among the 38 countries that have already agreed are Tajikistan, Afghanistan, Djibouti, the Philippines, Azerbaijan, Uzbekistan, Bosnia, Bahrain, India and Israel – all important fronts in the war on terror.

■ Congress has passed the American Servicemembers Protection Act, which blocks U.S. military assistance to any country that signs on to the ICC but refuses to sign a side agree-

ment shielding U.S. personnel. Underscoring just how serious Congress is taking the ICC’s attack on American sovereignty, ASPA also authorizes the president to use “all means necessary and appropriate” to free American or allied personnel from ICC imprisonment. In other words, ASPA is a license for war. Recall that this legislation emanated from a Democratic-controlled Senate, was passed by a Republican House and was signed by a Republican president.

Transformations. Chasing after what Alexis de Tocqueville called the “indefinite perfectibility of man,” proponents of the ICC believe the court will “achieve justice for all ... end conflicts ... deter future war criminals.” In short, they believe the ICC can change human nature. They are wrong, and history mocks them.

How can a court decision shame the shameless or punish the lawless? How will a court achieve justice for Saddam’s murdered victims, or the Taliban’s, or Kim Jong Il’s? How will it end conflicts, many of which rage even now between signatories of the ICC treaty? How will it deter future war criminals if Nuremberg, the most powerful war-crimes tribunal in history, failed to deter Stalin, Pol Pot, Mengistu, Amin, Saddam, the Hutus, Milosevic or bin Laden?

It seems that a global effort to transform the regimes and systems that perpetrate these crimes would be more effective than what amounts to a global D.A. As British statesman and author George Walden once observed, “The most reliable unit of peace is a prosperous, educated, stable democratic nation.”

The United States may be on the wrong side of the world for opposing the ICC. But if it continues to replace dictatorships with democracies, it will remain on the right side of history. 🌿

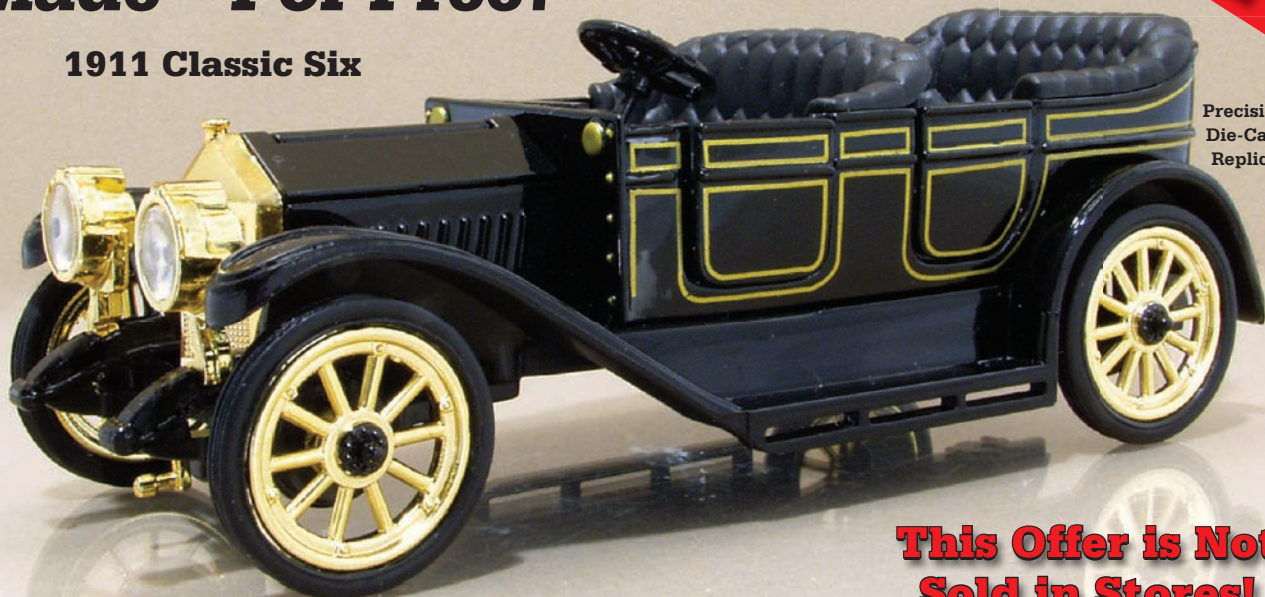
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'More powerful than any words'

*Nearly 150 years after war met photography,
the relationship continues to evolve.*

BY JEFF STOFFER

A sunburned Marine not long out of high school gazes at the camera's lens, and through it, and a thousand yards beyond that. The eyes beneath his tattered helmet are suspended somewhere between boyhood, manhood and death – a stare as vacant as it is deep. The photographer who saw Vietnam written in that face near the DMZ in 1966 was *Life* magazine's Larry Burrows, a legendary figure among an elite class of journalists, those who built their careers – and sometimes gave their lives – to freeze the hell of war with the click of a shutter.

Since the middle of the 19th century – the dawn of the camera itself – war zones have attracted photographers, and military authorities have anguished over what to do about them. Policies have ranged from complete exclusion to unfettered access and everything in between. World leaders have enlisted photographers as agents of propaganda, blamed them for fueling antiwar sentiment and hung their art on office walls for inspiration. It is a most profound medium. More trustworthy than words in print, less transitory than video, the photograph appears momentarily in our newspapers and magazines before settling into the permanence of historical record. Photographs survive as visual evidence of something if not true, then certainly believable, long after those who produced them, or appeared in them, are dead and gone. George Bernard Shaw is attributed for having once said he “would willingly exchange every single painting of Christ for one snapshot.”

Recognizing photography's potential, England commissioned one of its earliest pioneers, Roger Fenton, and sent him and his horsedrawn darkroom to the Crimean

War in 1855. The purpose was to counteract articles in the *London Times* describing harsh conditions, poor equipment, disease and low morale among Her Majesty's troops fighting Russians on the front. Fenton brought back

more than 350 images, all processed in the field, in sweltering heat, amid what he described as a “plague of flies.” At a time when cameras were the size of field cannons, neither the equipment nor development procedures were advanced enough to capture combat action. But Fenton fulfilled the royal wishes with static shots of encampments and staged portraits of officers. Fenton could not have realized, as he shooed flies and battled the elements, that he was giving birth to a revolution that would remain unsettled nearly 150 years later.

War photography took its next major step in the early 1860s when New York's Mathew Brady – who had risen to success by producing and displaying daguerotypes of famous early Americans – entered the battlefield. Brady

defied the wishes of his closest associates, risking lost business opportunities to document the U.S. Civil War. He is quoted as



ABOVE: A World War I soldier serving in a photographic unit operates a camera in Germany. *National Archives*

FACING PAGE: War's toll is captured in the eyes of a young Marine near the DMZ in 1966 during the Vietnam War. © *Larry Burrows*

"A spirit in my feet said, 'Go,' and I went."

– Mathew Brady, whose Civil War photography cost him substantial business



Mathew Brady's project to photograph the Civil War delivered shocking scenes of combat casualties from Antietam. *Library of Congress*

saying that no matter how much war photography was costing him, it was his destiny. "A spirit in my feet said, 'Go,' and I went." He came back with history's first dose of combat reality – the dead, bloody and strewn – in images from Bull Run, Antietam Creek, Gettysburg, Cold Harbor. In 1862, he displayed the startling images from Antietam – many of which Brady only developed and were actually taken by employees – much to the shock of an audience new not only to the realism of photography but also to the grim sight of war carnage. That audience ultimately evolved, as the generations passed, into one that to this day studies the war between the states from the perspectives of Brady and his crew.

It is such power – the power of holding open forever a window on history – that has kept photographers pouring in and out of war theaters ever since.

A Tighter Leash. Access to action has always been the control valve. In World War I, only active-duty military photographers were allowed much contact with the front lines, and their images were closely screened before release. Civilians were mainly relegated to the sidelines. During World War II, as smaller, more mobile cameras permitted photographers to get within inches of the fighting, combat photography remained closely scrutinized, practiced by GIs or civilians who had sworn to abide by the same rules of military conduct as the troops. By that time, all branches of the U.S. Armed Forces were attaching active-duty photogra-

phers to deployed units. Thousands of rolls of film covering all phases of war were shot and sent back to Washington, where they generally settled into the obscurity of little-seen archives, declassified only after the battles were long over. Only the most carefully rationed images of triumph and superiority dominated the pages of American publications – the Allied forces securing Omaha Beach, troops marching down the Champs Elysees, the U.S. Flag raising on Mount Suribachi, Eisenhower commanding the men. The images formed a visual mosaic of World War II and helped crystallize public support for U.S. involvement in it.

Some World War II photos eventually became synonymous with the meaning of America itself. The famous Associated Press shot of five Marines and one Navy corpsman hoisting the U.S. Flag after the bloody fighting at Iwo Jima was replicated for millions of war-loan posters, a U.S. postage stamp and dozens of magazine covers. It served as the model for the Marine Corps War Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery and made a celebrity of a young photographer named Joe Rosenthal, who would spend the rest of his life reliving his Pulitzer Prize-winning work that day.

"I don't know how to get across to anybody what 50 years of constant repetition means," Rosenthal said at age 83, in a 1995 interview with the AP. He said at the time that although he had been asked to tell the same story thousands of times, he did not regret his permanent connection to that moment in history. "It makes me feel as though I've done something worthwhile," he said.

Access to the fighting expanded greatly for civilian correspondents covering the Korean War. "In the very first months, there was no censorship," says Bob Gibson, a former foreign editor of *The Los Angeles Times*, who covered the Korean War for the wire services. "It was chaotic and very competitive. Some people turned out to be so competitive they would breach security. By the time I got there in April 1951, censorship was in place. They mainly looked out for the protection of the units. Sometimes, they would hold up a story because they thought it was too fresh and would give helpful information to the enemy. Another rule was you couldn't give the name of a casualty for three days. If you were out with Sgt. John Doe, and he was wounded or killed, we didn't want families to see it in the newspapers first. But we were basically embedded in the Korean War. We could choose a unit. We weren't assigned

New lure's catch rate may be too high for some tournaments.

Out-fishes other bait 19 to 4 in one contest.

Uses aerospace technology to mimic a real fish.

ORLANDO, FL— A small company in Connecticut has developed a new lure that mimics the motion of a real fish so realistically eight professionals couldn't tell the difference between it and a live shad when it "swam" toward them on retrieval. The design eliminates wobbling, angled swimming and other unnatural motions that problem

by Charlie Allen

other hard bait lures. It swims upright and appears to propel itself with its tail.

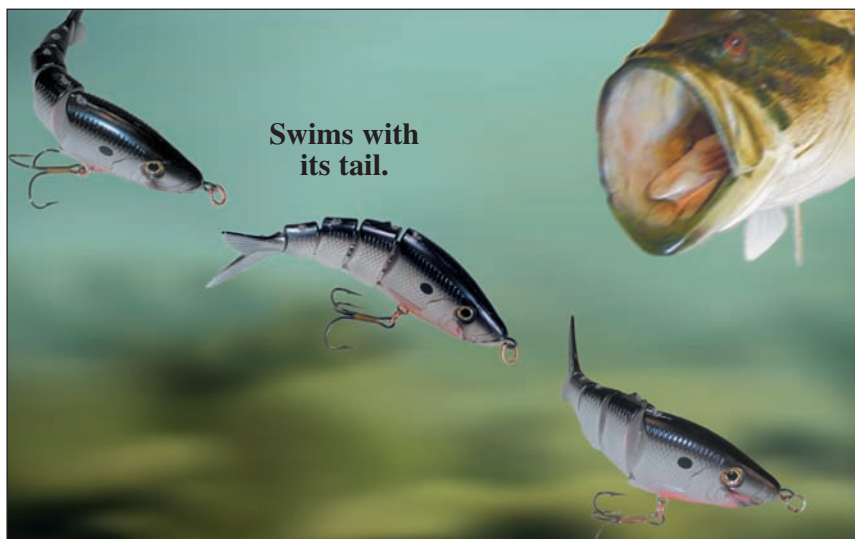
Curiously, the company may have designed it too well. Tournament fishermen who have used it said it's possible officials will not allow it in contests where live bait is prohibited. They claim it swims more realistically than anything they have ever seen. If so, that would hurt the company's promotional efforts. Winning tournaments is an important part of marketing a new lure.

Fish would probably prefer to see it restricted. I watched eight veteran fishermen test the new lure (called The KickTail™) on a lake outside Orlando FL for about four hours. Four used the KickTail and four used a combination of their favorite lures and shiners (live bait). The four using the KickTail caught

41 fish versus 14 for the other four. In one boat the KickTail won 19 to 4. The KickTail also caught bigger fish, which suggests it triggers larger, less aggressive fish to strike. You can see why the company needs to get it into tournaments. An

almost 3 to 1 advantage can mean thousands of dollars to a fisherman, and hundreds of thousands in sales to the company.

The KickTail's magic comes from a patented technology that breaks the tail into five segments. As water rushes by on retrieval, a little-known principle



New lure swims like a real fish--nearly triples catch in Florida contest.

called aeronautical flutter causes the tail to wag left and right, as if the lure were propelling itself with its tail. Unlike other hard baits, the head remains stationary—only the tail wags. A company spokesman told me this.

"Fish attack live things, and they determine if something is alive by watching its movements. Marine biologists will tell you that the more a lure swims like a real fish, the more fish it will catch. Well, the only live thing the KickTail doesn't do is breathe. It's better than live bait! It lasts longer and it never hangs half-dead from a hook. It's always swimming wild and free. Fish can't stand it. We've seen fish that have just eaten go for the KickTail. It's like having another potato chip.

Increases catch almost 3 to 1.

"To make the KickTail even more lifelike, we gave it a natural shad color and shaped it like the most prevalent bait fish of all, the threadfin. Game fish gobble up more threadfin shad than any other baitfish.

"We knew the KickTail would out-fish other lures. It had to. Other lures wobble their heads and swim on an angle. But 41 fish to 14? That's huge! I tell you, in ten seconds anyone who has fished a day in his life knows this little swimmer's a home run. Fishermen reserved thousands of KickTails before we produced it! Here, reel it in and watch it swim toward you. Can you tell

the difference between it and a live fish? (I said no.) Neither can the fish.

"The flutter technology also allows the KickTail to swim at the water's surface. Other top water lures must be worked to have any live action, or have a bill that makes them dive on retrieval. Our diver version is the only deep crank bait that let's you do tricks like 'walk the dog.' Twitch it at deep levels and it gives an irresistible, lifelike action. Other lures 'dig.' And there's no need for rattles. The five tail segments click together as you pull it through the water, calling fish from a distance."

Whether you fish for fun or profit, if you want a near 3 to 1 advantage, I would order now before the KickTail becomes known. The company even guarantees a refund, if you don't catch more fish and return the lures within 30 days. There are three versions: a floater for top water, a diver and a "dying shad" with a weed guard for fishing lily pads and other feeding spots. The company says it's the only hard bait of its kind in existence. Each lure costs \$9.95 and you must order at least two. There is also a "Super 10-Pack" with additional colors for only \$79.95, a savings of almost \$20.00. S/h is only \$6.00 no matter how many you order.

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Inventor Scott Wilson lands a 10-pounder.

"It makes me feel as though I've done something worthwhile."

– Joe Rosenthal, whose photo from Mount Suribachi embodied American victory



Joe Rosenthal's photo of the U.S. flag-raising on Mount Suribachi became synonymous with American fortitude and victory. *National Archives*

one. We went to a division and were headquartered there, and we could stay as long as we wanted. There was a great deal of trust. We were not there to screw the Army. We were there to report the story."

David Douglas Duncan, a World War II Marine Corps photographer who went on to shoot the Korean War and dozens of other subjects for *Life* magazine, moved as he pleased in Korea, operating alone, delivering some of the most gripping images ever recorded. Many were showcased in Duncan's 1951 photo-narrative book, "This is War!" republished in 1979 and in 1990.

"Nobody laid a hand on me," says the 88-year-old Duncan, from his home in France. "There was not the slightest restraint. When Korea started, I applied everything I learned in World War II, only I think my stuff was closer to the men ... I always worked with the Marines. I knew if I got hit, they would drag me out. Having been a Marine, I knew that."

The Korean War access shift generated the most intimate images to date, of Americans in combat. Duncan drew acclaim for his 1950 shot of a Marine captain's hollow expression when, after fighting all night, he was advised that half his men were dead or wounded, they were out of ammo, and they had lost radio contact with anyone who could help. The photo of Capt. Ike Fenton, taken just two weeks after U.S. forces arrived, was so compelling some say it helped shift public opinion against U.S. military action there.

"War is in the eyes," Duncan says after having recently finished a 464-page anthology of his work, "Photo Nomad," published last year by Norton. "Never the faces of the dead – never, never. Somewhere there's a wife or a sister or a mother or a son. Be humane."

During Korea, combat photographers were more free than ever to illuminate war's darkest corners – the frostbitten troops at the "frozen Chosin," the wounded, the sleep-deprived, the Pyongyang-fleeing refugees clinging to a bridge sinking into the Taedong River. Names and locations were routinely withheld for security reasons, but photographers such as Pulitzer Prize winner Max Desfor of the AP, who parachuted behind enemy lines to get close to the action, captured the human cost of war in ways unseen by the public since Brady. Moreover, their work pushed the envelope on access, content and the public's expectations of what makes a good war picture.

And then came Vietnam.

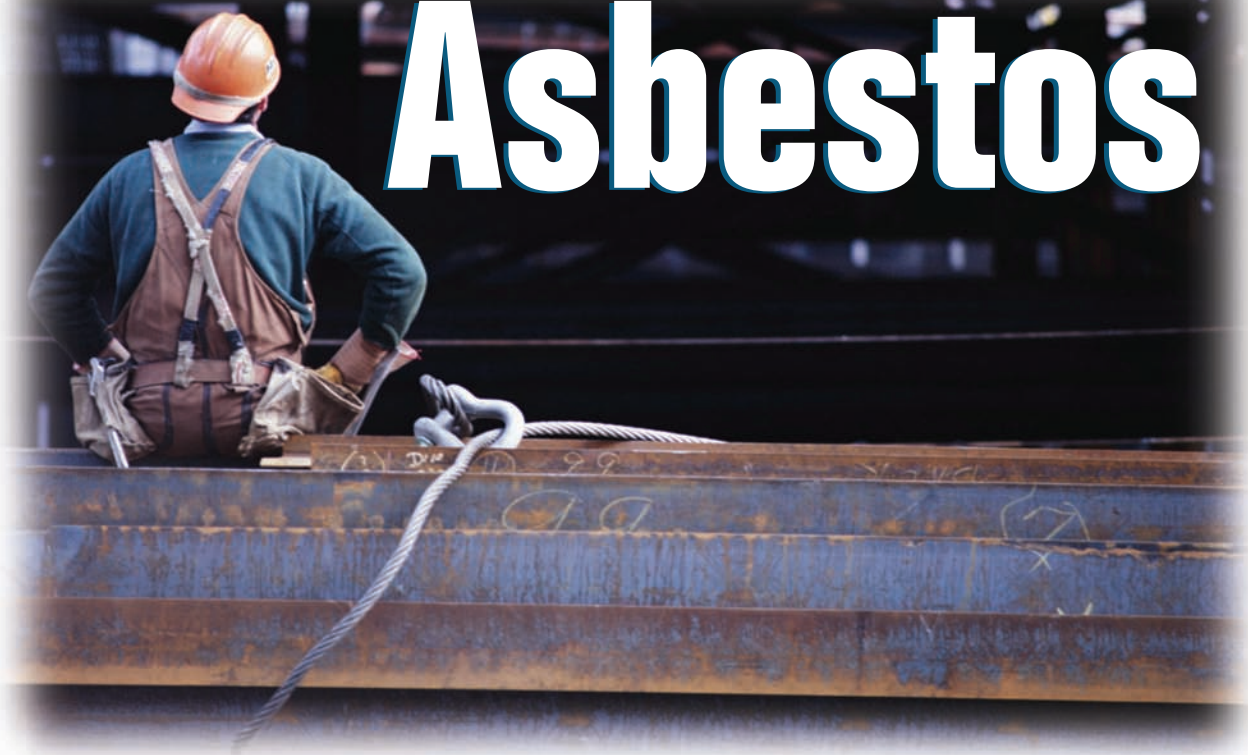
The Unencumbered Journalist. "You take Vietnam as the high water mark, the most openly covered war in history up to that point," says Joe Galloway, a former UPI correspondent whose firsthand reporting of the bloody fighting in the Ia Drang Valley in 1965 led to a best-selling book and the Hollywood movie "We Were Soldiers."

"You signed a one-page agreement. It had about six points, mainly operational security items – not to reveal troop movements while they were under way, not to reveal the number of friendly casualties while the battle was still under way ... very sensible rules. I don't know how many thousands of people covered the Vietnam War – generally there were about 500 accredited correspondents at any one time – but in 10 years of it, the American part of it, I think fewer than seven were ever sanctioned for violations of that simple set of rules. You signed that piece of paper, you got your press card, and you were totally free. That was your ticket to ride on any military transportation. You could go anywhere, go with any unit, stay as short or as long a time as you wished, or as your boss would let you, and there was no pre-censorship. You got your story, your film, and that was that. You can't ask for anything better."

"It was unbelievable," recalls Bill Snead, who photographed the Vietnam War for UPI and later shot Grenada, Panama and Desert Storm, for *The Washington Post*. "We didn't realize how unbelievable it was until

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"War is in the eyes – never the faces of the dead."

– David Douglas Duncan, who elevated war photography to art



The expression on Marine Capt. Ike Fenton's face says it all after a battle to secure a ridge early in the Korean War. *David Douglas Duncan, Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center, The University of Texas at Austin*

we looked at it in retrospect. That access beat the hell out of Korea, World War II and anything since then. There were no censors. You took your pictures to a transmitter that was on top of an apartment building and you just let fly ... You could go out (in the field) and take risks, and your chances were awfully good of getting a good photo, depending on who you went out with, and if you wanted to take your life into your own hands."

"We had a very good relationship with the military," says two-time Pulitzer Prize winner Horst Faas, who spent more than a decade covering the war for AP and later collaborated on two books about photojournalists killed while working there. "It was mutual respect. Remember that the Americans came one year at a time, and the press stayed for the duration. I was there from 1962 to 1973. Junior officers were curious about our opinions and experiences. They wanted to know what we knew. In a bad event, many

of them were glad to see someone come in, look at the situation and report on it."

Vietnam War press accreditation required little more than a letter from a newspaper willing to consider publishing the correspondent's work – and willing to fly the body back if necessary. "It could be a weekly newspaper with a circulation of 50," says 1969 Pulitzer Prize winner Eddie Adams. "You got the same credentials and were treated the same. It was a joke. I think it was wrong, myself. There is only so much room on a helicopter. I don't think there should be hundreds of photographers covering a war."

"Those letters were awfully easy to get," Snead admits. "A lot of guys went over there to play war. It was Dodge City. You could do anything you were man enough to do. If you wanted to go to the war, they would get you into a jeep, and in 15 minutes you could be there."

Adams says a corps of only about 50 Vietnam War photographers actually went to the real hot spots and came back with the goods. "Then," he says, "there was another 750 or so who liked Saigon a lot."

"It was a meritocracy," says Steve Northup, who shot the war in 1965 and 1966 for UPI. "Everyone knew who was doing the good work. You earned your stay."

The 1997 Random House collection "Requiem," which Faas co-edited with another former Vietnam correspondent, Tim Page, pays homage to the work of 135 combat photographers on both sides of the war who are known to have been killed covering it. In the introduction, author and former war correspondent David Halberstam remembers Saigon as a place "that belonged to the younger men and women we once were, the young, eager, scared journalists clad in Catina fatigues, scrambling to get to Tan Son Nhut to get aboard the Hueys going into battle, terrified we might get there too late to get aboard, terrified we might get there in time to get aboard."

"Courage of the photographers was a constant," says George Esper, who spent 10 years in Vietnam as a reporter and AP bureau chief. "If you miss a photo, you can't go back. You can't re-create it, as a reporter might, by interviewing soldiers in the aftermath ... Photographers want to cover combat because, in a journalistic sense, it's very rewarding. It's the biggest thing you do in your life. It changed our entire lives, both personally and professionally. War photographers want to be a part of history, have their photos live on."

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"You take Vietnam as the high water mark, the most openly covered war in history up to that point."

— Joe Galloway, whose combat journalism led him to the Bronze Star

Nick Ut, who started shooting Vietnam War photos for AP at age 16 – after his brother was killed in the same line of work – was wounded three times while on assignment. But he came away with one particular photo that "lives on."



Joe Galloway of UPI received the Bronze Star for his actions embedded with the 1st Cavalry in Vietnam in 1965. *Courtesy Joe Galloway*

In 1972, the 19-year-old Ut was working near a small village along Highway 1 when a mistaken South Vietnamese napalm drop led to mass pandemonium. Villagers scrambled from their homes and ran down the highway, black smoke billowing behind them. In the melee was 9-year-old Phan Thi Kim Phuc, fleeing in terror, naked, screaming and badly burned. Ut's photo of that hellish moment brought him the Pulitzer Prize and slid a cornerstone image into the visual mosaic of Vietnam, one so different from that which shaped public opinion of World War II. Reproduced in dozens of publications, the photo of the napalm girl

was soon blamed for fanning the flames of the antiwar movement. Like the war itself, much of that image was misinterpreted.

"After I took her picture, I lay down my camera on Highway 1 and ran to her," Ut explains from a Los Angeles AP office, where he still works as a photojournalist. "I got her water and then took her to my van and drove her 10 miles to the hospital and saved her life. I told them I didn't want her to die. I told them I wanted to come back tomorrow and see her."

Fourteen months and 17 operations later, she recovered. Today, Kim Phuc lives in Canada, works as a U.N. Goodwill Ambassador and speaks regularly with Ut on the phone. "She is like a daughter," he says.

Like Ut, Adams took one of the best known and most misinterpreted photos of the Vietnam War, one that also eventually led to a friendship between photographer and subject. Adams' 1968 image of South Vietnamese police chief Brig. Gen. Nguyen Ngoc

FACING PAGE: Photojournalist Larry Burrows, far left, helps carry a wounded soldier to an evacuation helicopter in Cambodia. *Henri Huet*

Ripples in the pool: Vietnam's post script

BY FRED PECK

A common misperception in the post-Vietnam military was that "the news media stabbed us in the back." This myth was perpetuated for decades and led to a general distrust of the media by

the officer corps of our military. News coverage of the Vietnam War became the scapegoat for a failed policy in Vietnam, and the culture of the military closed ranks and vowed not to let the media do that again. The most glaring post-Vietnam examples of

that mindset were the way the media were kept away from the action in Grenada and Panama.

Partly because of media complaints about how they were treated during those two operations, the Pentagon moved to revamp how the media would be treated. Former Assistant Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs Pete Williams met with Washington bureau chiefs to refine the pool process, to ensure media would be on the scene at the outset of operations.

When Desert Storm came about in 1991, the pool concept was broadened to be the only way the war could be officially covered – something it was never intended to be. Again, that led to more thinking about military-media relations.

After Desert Storm, Williams and the bureau chiefs established principles for media coverage of military operations in which



Journalists shadow a Special Forces soldier on the beach outside Mogadishu in 1992. *AP*



pools would be used only when absolutely necessary. Open access was to be the rule.

In Somalia in 1992 and 1993, open access and embedding of reporters was the way I operated with the media. Pools, in my opinion, provide poor coverage because everything is watered down and shared by all. I only used pools a couple of times in five months in Somalia, when space restrictions limited the number of reporters we could accommodate.

Williams and I specifically discussed using a pool to cover the landing at Mogadishu on Dec. 9, 1992. I was against pooling the reporters, and Williams agreed with me. I selected 29 journalists who were broadly representative of the media waiting in Mombassa, Kenya. With Williams' concurrence, I took media from all the U.S. news organizations, plus Reuters, the BBC and ITV to cover the European interests. We embarked on a supply ship that

rendezvoused with the Navy/Marine Task Force off the coast of Mogadishu. Although we didn't use the term at the time, I "embedded" the journalists with various elements of the task force and let them proceed on their own. It worked well.

Real-Time Difference. Evolving technology has played a key role in the way the Pentagon has to deal with news media. The popular belief is that the media brought the Vietnam War into our living rooms. It did, but usually the stories and images were one or two days old. Operation Iraqi Freedom really did bring the war into our living rooms, in real time.

The greatest fear American military leaders have is that the families of our warriors might have to witness the deaths of their loved ones on television. Although there were a few instances in Iraq where families learned about casualties from the media, the embedded journalists proved sensitive to this concern.

New technology also raises concerns about operational security. With the notable exception of Geraldo Rivera, journalists recognized and respected the ground rules developed to provide "op sec."

In Somalia in 1992, a satellite phone was the size of a large suitcase and required a generator or some other power source. Today, they are battery-operated, handheld, and can transmit still and moving images.

I believe the genie is out of the bottle, both from a technological standpoint and with regard to media access. The conflict in Iraq demonstrated that the media can be trusted, and a generation of journalists, editors and military leaders have learned how to get along. Even more important, they have developed mutual respect for the difficult and different missions they have. 🌿

Retired Marine Col. Fred Peck served as the military spokesman for Operation Restore Hope.

*"War photographers want to be a part of history,
have their photos live on."*

— George Esper, who served as AP bureau chief in Vietnam



The body of an American paratrooper is raised from the jungle to a helicopter near the Cambodia border. *Henri Huet/AP*

Loan shooting a Viet Cong officer in the head on a Saigon street became an international icon for the war's brutality.

"A lot of people don't know this," Adams says. "When I took that picture, I thought absolutely nothing of it. I thought, 'This is war, man. This is what happens in war.' I was there. I shot it. I dropped off my film. And it was front page all over the world. It really became a big deal. I couldn't understand it. The first award I received for it was in Holland about a year later. This is probably the biggest competition in the world. I get the grand award, and all of a sudden they play the national anthem, and I'm freaking out. As it was handed to me, I felt like there's something wrong here. Here I am destroying two lives, receiving a gold medal for it. It tore me apart. It wasn't too long later I received the Pulitzer Prize, and I almost gave it back."

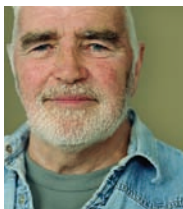
"Over the years, I became close friends with the general. He never really blamed me for the picture. But I blamed myself. He said, 'Eddie, you were doing your job, and I was doing mine.' I respected him. After I took the picture, I remember he walked by me – I was maybe five feet away – and he said, 'He killed many of my men, and your people.' People say, 'Why didn't you stop him?' There are times when you take pictures and times when you help people. There was a war going on. This was part of it."

"Those two photos (the Saigon execution and the napalm girl) stand out because they were so perfectly framed, because in the faces you saw the agony and pain and brutality of war," Esper explains. "Those photos are more powerful – and I say this as a writer – than any words."

"I've done this for a big part of my life," says Adams, today still a nationally acclaimed photographer in genres ranging from celebrity portraiture to advertising, and founder of the prestigious Eddie Adams Barnstorm Workshop in Jeffersonville, N.Y. "I've covered 13 wars, and I've been to almost every refugee camp in the world. During that period, I have probably seen more people die and more people hurt than most generals have. Many times, I would bring my camera up to my eye and start crying, turn my head and shoot. What I was doing – and I don't do this consciously – is I was becoming the person I was photographing. If someone is starving or hurting, you feel it, honest to God. I became the subject in front of the camera, and I got to a point where I said, 'I can't do this anymore.'"

Restricted Access. "We went into a death spiral after Vietnam," says Galloway, who received the Bronze Star for his life-saving actions as a civilian in the Ia Drang Valley. "They decided they were going to control it all, spin it, lock the press up, and so you had a Grenada, where no press were allowed on the island during the conduct of combat. The Navy admiral who was in charge – when he heard that the press were hiring boats and heading for the island – put out an order to sink them. You move from there to Panama. After Grenada, there was all this howling, so they created the ready-reaction pool. They flew them to Panama. And they locked them up in a warehouse on the air base and didn't let them out until the war was over. More outrage. More negotiations. Then you come to the Persian Gulf, which was the absolute nadir. On the eve of the war, they were going

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Andrew Easton is a noted sportsman and hunting authority. He writes on subjects relevant to hunting and shooting.

SHARP SHOOTER | by Andrew Easton

The Ins & Outs of Better Shooting

English supplement improves vision and allows you to pick up, focus, and lock in on moving objects faster than you ever thought possible.

Recently, I received this letter from Brian Howe of Richmond, VA.

Sharpshooter:

A couple of weeks ago, my friend Dave and I were sitting in a duck blind. Now, this is a guy I've known practically my whole life. We've hunted duck, whitetail, elk, turkey and just about everything else in season for the last 20 years.

We're both pretty good marksmen and we love to compete with each other! We've always been even skill wise. But, this last time we went out, I noticed Dave was picking up objects a lot faster than I was. He was focusing on incoming targets and squeezing off shots faster and more precisely than ever. By the end of the day, Dave was cleaning several more birds than I was. This went on the entire weekend.

So, I finally asked him if he'd gotten laser surgery or contact lenses. I mean, his shooting accuracy had improved so much. It was incredible. He just laughed and said no. But, last November he had been on a fox hunting trip in the Cheviot Hills of Northumberland, England, and one of the guides gave him a bottle of an English supplement called Claroxan™. He told Dave that it would greatly improve his vision. In a few weeks, the guide explained, he would be able to pick up, focus, and lock in on moving objects faster than he ever dreamed of.

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Hope this helps!

—Andrew Easton

“Even with the embedding, we miss the correspondent being able to go from one end of the war to another and talk to everybody.”

– Steve Northup, who photographed the Vietnam War in 1965 and 1966 for UPI



Embedded *Time* photographer Robert Nickelsberg files pictures using a laptop and satellite phone while embedded with troops during Operation Iraqi Freedom. **AP**

to have it covered by 10 pools of 10 correspondents each, each of them under the escort of a military officer who had the power to tell them what they could shoot, what they could write – censor their dispatches – and the results are well known. When the war was over, the Army couldn't find a foot of film of the great tank battles in Kuwait. That film didn't exist. It was film they could have used to show how wonderful their soldiers did, and to take up to Capitol Hill when budgets were being slashed. No film. Afterward, I sat in on a whole series of symposiums where these division commanders were on one side of the table, and we were on the other, and they realized they had outsmarted themselves. They were complaining bitterly. I said, 'Where was your pool?' And they said, 'Well, we locked them up at headquarters.' Or, 'We let them out but forgot to lay any communications on them, so we couldn't get their film and stories back to the rear.' They were afraid of the propaganda, afraid that it would go badly in the first hours and days. Their estimates of casualties were in the thousands. They had body bags warehoused. They had replacement troops standing by in every division to fill in for those who were killed. I know. I was there."

Galloway – who has spent a considerable portion of his career crusading for better media access to military action – had the unique distinction of riding in the crow's nest of the first Gulf War, covering it for *U.S. News & World Report*. His coverage of Vietnam at one point alongside a newly pinned major named Norman Schwarzkopf

helped. In early 1991, *U.S. News & World Report* sent Galloway to Saudi Arabia to "teach the young correspondents how to do this without getting killed and how to get what they would need. Well, in the middle of that, I got summoned to Schwarzkopf's headquarters, and we had a three-hour conversation with the door closed. We talked for a while about Vietnam. We talked about what was about to happen. He briefed me somewhat on his war plan, and he said, 'I know what you want, and I am going to give it to you.' And I raised my eyebrows, and he said, 'I am going to send you to the division that has the most dangerous and difficult mission in my war plan.' And I looked at him, and I said, 'Norm, I thought we were friends.' But I couldn't say no."

He found himself, much as he was in Vietnam, embedded. He was an exception to the Gulf War rule that war is best covered from afar. Journalism would have to wait until Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2003 to get back to the front. But even that was no Vietnam.

"Never again," Northup says. "Under current military rules, those kinds of friendships could not exist. Even with the embedding, we miss the correspondent being able to go from one end of the war to another and talk to everybody."

Common Ground. "There were some American (troops) who wished we weren't there," Snead says of his Vietnam experience. "But once you got to know them, they were thrilled to have us. There was never a doubt that if you were in jeopardy, they would try to protect you as much as they would try to protect their own."

Perhaps that is because the hearts of good soldiers and good combat photographers beat to the same rhythm. Both are driven by duty and purpose. Both are aware of the risks, oblivious to the fears. When their feet say go – as Mathew Brady's did – they go, marching together, unfolding history one battle at a time.

Richard Pyle, author and former Vietnam War reporter for AP, says Larry Burrows knew the power of his art and wielded it with grace. Burrows, Pyle says, was a leader and role model of nearly every other photojournalist in-country. Burrows was in his mid-40s, an unassuming star of the industry who certainly did not need any more combat missions to complete his portfolio. "Like the others," Pyle says, "he struggled to explain what drove him. He would say, 'I am no more



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Life magazine's David Douglas Duncan captured in the eyes of frostbitten Korean War soldiers the harsh realities of battle. **David Douglas Duncan, Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center, The University of Texas at Austin**

courageous than anyone else. I just feel that photography is important, and I will do what is required to show what is happening. I have a sense of the ultimate: death. And I must say, to hell with that.' He was a combination of artist and technician, with an understanding – a grasp of the meaning – of the story, the context of the story, what he was shooting and why, why it mattered. His pictures all reflected that. Eyeball coverage in the field is essential to understand what war is."

Burrows, along with three other acclaimed combat photographers – Henri Huet, Kent Potter and Keisaburo Shimamoto – boarded a South Vietnamese chopper in February 1971 to cover one of the war's most vexing operations: the attempt to sever the Ho Chi Minh Trail in Laos. They were shot down. No one survived.

Pyle and Faas returned in 1998 to find the location, to reconcile the deaths of their colleagues and to honor their memories. The book "Lost Over Laos," published in 2003 by Da Capo Press, was the product of that mission. In it, Pyle wrote that "... it could be argued that such deaths as that served no valid purpose, that no photograph could

possibly be worth that. Others would say it was worth it – that everybody dies, and what truly mattered was the record that these four left, a marker far more enduring than any tombstone, a legacy that perpetuated mortality in ways that are denied to most people."

How similarly they engage mortality – the combat photographer and the soldier. Neither boasts of a willingness to risk life and limb for higher principles; they just do it, knowing the reward may be fame, failure, anonymity, injury or death in some remote place far from home. Those who have best photographed war, they say, have done so as if they themselves stood in the boots of their subjects. Photographic access to the action – good or bad, true or false – delivers visual evidence of war's human consequences, as can only be held in the eyes of those in the act of fighting. In the eyes of those soldiers, fathers see their sons, wives see their husbands, and the public can put a face on fear, on courage, on living and dying, for the sake of images history must never forget. 🌿

Jeff Stoffer is managing editor of The American Legion Magazine.

Article design: Holly K. Soria

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of Portraits Heroes

Patriotic painter memorializes U.S. soldiers killed in Iraq.

BY SCOTT WESTCOTT

Kaziah Hancock felt a pang of helplessness as she heard the radio account of another American soldier killed in Iraq late last spring.

"I sat there listening to the radio, and my heart was so broken," Hancock says. "You feel so helpless thinking there is nothing you can do. Then I thought, 'You know what? There is one thing I can do.'"

What Hancock can do is paint. The 54-year-old Manti, Utah, artist is an accomplished portrait painter who usually fetches \$2,000 or more for one of her commissioned oil paintings. After hearing that day of the death of Army Chief Warrant Officer John Daren Smith, she contacted some of Smith's Utah relatives and asked them to send photographs. Hancock studied the photos and a few paragraphs Smith's family had written about him. Then she started to paint. A few weeks later, she delivered a framed portrait to the grieving family, free of charge.

Since then, Hancock has been busy. Seeing how that first portrait gave comfort and pride to the Smith family, she



Marine Capt. Aaron J. Contreras of Temecula, Calif., was killed in a helicopter crash in Iraq in March 2003.

has reached out to loved ones of other fallen soldiers. By Christmas, Hancock's "Portraits of Heroes" series had expanded to 14 paintings of soldiers killed in Iraq.

Heartbreaking Task. "I do this as an act of love, from one American to another," Hancock says. "I live in America, and I appreciate our freedom. Even though this is a heartbreaking ordeal, it's something I wanted to do."

Hancock supports the war on terrorism and thinks America had to

stand up to Saddam Hussein. But her painting has brought her closer to the painful truths of war. In addition to sending photographs, Hancock asks family members to describe their loved ones. Through words and pictures, Hancock learns what the soldiers were like, what they valued and what they meant to those left behind.

"Whether a person believes in the war or not,

it's a matter of being an American and having compassion for these families," Hancock says. "I respect these men and women for standing up for their country."

*"I do this as an act of love,
from one American to another."*

—Kaziah Hancock



North light from a picture window in her Manti log cabin bathes the studio of Kaziah Hancock as she works on a portrait of Marine Staff Sgt. James W. Cawley. **Stuart Johnson, Deseret News**

Hancock paints inside her log cabin, located on her Utah farm she shares with more than 100 goats. There, standing at her easel bathed in the northern light, she dabs at more than 80 colors smeared on her palette. With thousands of meticulous brush strokes, she tries to convey the essence of the soldier she is painting.

"I try to capture their spirit, so it's almost like they are in the room," Hancock says. "It's a beautiful thing when I get a real sense of who I am painting and capture who they were. These were beautiful, beautiful boys – talented, intelligent, with sweet spirits. Sometimes I just look at them and start bawling, but then I say to myself, 'Come on. Get busy. You've got to keep working.'"

One of Hancock's

paintings now hangs on Samuel and Mary Oaks' living-room wall in Harborscreek, Pa. Their grandson, Army Spc. Donald Oaks, was killed by a bomb on April 3, 2003. He was 20 years old.

The family's living room is filled with reminders of "Donnie." There's a shot of him holding a flag as a toddler and pictures of him in his teen-age years. The flag that draped his coffin is folded on top of the television. Yet it is the portrait that Hancock painted that the family treasures most. It shows

Donnie in uniform, his eyes twinkling.

"Anywhere you stand in this room, those eyes are full of life," Samuel Oaks says. "As far as I'm concerned, they are full of life."

Hancock says the response from the Oaks family has been far

"When they say, 'You really captured my brother' or 'my husband,' it gives me a sense I have done something worthwhile."

– Kaziah Hancock

*"Her painting has brought her closer to
the painful truths of war.
With thousands of meticulous brush strokes,
she tries to convey the essence of the soldier she is painting."*



Army Chief Warrant Officer John Daren Smith of West Valley City, Utah, was killed in a helicopter crash in February 2003.



Air Force Lt. Col. Dillon L. McFarland of Layton, Utah, was killed during a training mission near Hill Air Force Base in Ogden, Utah, in November 2002.



Army Spc. Donnie Oaks of Erie, Penn., was killed in action by a bomb explosion in April 2003.

more rewarding than any amount of money or recognition.

"The family was so appreciative, and they shared beautiful things about Donnie's life," Hancock says. "As I was painting the portrait, I couldn't help thinking this is someone I would have liked to have known in life."

Lasting Memorials. Hancock thinks families are so touched by the art because of the permanence of oil paints. She envisions the portraits being passed down through generations, dignified and lasting memorials to sacrifices soldiers made for their families and nation.

"The thing is with paint you can create an image that is multi-dimensional," Hancock says. "Photography is quite flat. The image I create is more lifelike. If I couldn't do better than a photograph, then what would be the point?"

As word gets out about Hancock's "Portraits of Heroes" series, others offer support. Some have made financial contribu-

tions to help defray shipping costs. Others help purchase supplies. Kim Anderson, owner of Provo Art & Frame Shop, provides free canvases and framing. With two sons in the military, Anderson said he acutely understands the value of what Hancock is doing for grieving families.

"These oil paintings – the way she does them – are going to be around for another 300 or 400 years," Anderson says. "Knowing Kaziah, I'm not surprised by this. She is a very giving person. She didn't do this for publicity. She decided to do this long before anyone ever heard about it. I wanted to help as much as I could. It's a great way to memorialize these people."

Hancock says she would like to see other portrait artists get involved in the "Portraits of Heroes" project. With the death toll in Iraq well into the hundreds, she sadly admits that she alone will never be able to paint all who have made the ultimate sacrifice.

Yet she vows to continue. She plans to squeeze soldier portraits in between her commissioned work for as long as she is able.

"As long as my eyes and my strength holds out, I'll keep doing this," she says. "When I leave this earth, I want to have left a little love behind. When a family shows up and looks at the painting for the first time, I'm looking at them. That beautiful spontaneous reaction is encouraging to me. When they say, 'You really captured my brother' or 'my husband,' it gives me a sense I have done something worthwhile." 🌿

Scott Westcott is a freelance writer living in Erie, Pa.

Article design: Doug Rollison

For more info

Contact Kaziah Hancock at:

Call: (435) 835-9429

Online: www.kaziahthegoatwoman.com

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Freedom TV

Borrowing a page from its Cold War playbook, Washington has launched new radio and television stations to help wage the global campaign against terror. Like Radio Free Europe, Radio Liberty and TV Marti, which beamed uncensored, pro-democratic news and information into the communist bloc, the U.S.-backed Middle East Television Network is now broadcasting Western-oriented news programs throughout much of the Muslim world. Aiming to counter Al Jazeera, the new network is called "Al Hurra," which means "Free One."

Harold Pachios, who heads a special U.S. commission on public diplomacy, said, "The United States needs its own voice in the Arabic language." He added, "The new network will



provide a steady diet of the truth, backed by the American tradition of journalism, to open the Arab world to freedom and democracy."

President George W. Bush helped christen Al Hurra by taping an interview expressly for the network, during which

he laid out U.S. plans to bring freedom to the Middle East, restated his support for a Palestinian state and highlighted the coalition's progress in Iraq. Excerpts of the interview were published by *The New York Times*.

Al Hurra, which has an annual budget of \$62 million, serves as the TV complement to Radio Sawa, launched in 2002. Within weeks of going on the air, Radio Sawa became the most-listened-to station in several Middle Eastern countries.

— A.W.D.

Carrots

In yet another sign of the administration's intention to transform the Middle East, President George W. Bush will ask America's European allies this summer to sign on to a wide-ranging plan to democratize and liberalize the same region that spawned Yasser Arafat, Ayatollah Khomeini, Saddam Hussein and Osama bin Laden.

Dubbed the "Greater Middle East Initiative," the effort would unite the European Union and the United States in pressuring Middle Eastern governments to embrace political, economic and social-policy reforms. In exchange, those governments would receive more aid, lucrative trade opportunities, and new military and diplomatic contacts.

The GMEI calls to mind Bush's Millennium Challenge Corporation, which was put forward in early 2003 and aims to revolutionize U.S. foreign aid by making assistance dependent upon a country's fiscal policy, protection of civil liberties, commitment to deregulation, and openness to trade.

Floated through diplomatic channels over the past

several months, the plan could be officially unveiled during a NATO-E.U. gathering or the G-8 summit next month, as *The Washington Post* has reported.

Sticks

Thanks to a new agreement between Liberia and the United States, Washington will be using the big stick of the U.S. Navy more proactively to protect the high seas and America's coastlines from terrorist attack.

Under the agreement, the Navy is authorized to board Liberia-flagged vessels suspected of hauling weapons of mass destruc-

tion, their precursors or delivery vehicles. Liberian shipping is being singled out because Liberia has the second-largest ship registry on earth. Weapons proliferators, terrorists and other modern-day pirates have been known to use Liberian shipping to move their men and material. As *The Wall Street Journal* and other newspapers have reported, al-Qaida is believed to have more than a dozen ships at sea and moves its armada under a number of different flags to conceal crews, manifests, destinations and ports of origin.

The new U.S.-Liberia accord is seen as an important part of the Proliferation Security Initiative, created in 2003 to improve how the United States and its allies track suspicious shipping, interdict weapons transfers and disrupt maritime terrorism. The PSI has already scored successes intercepting North Korean and Libyan vessels. Liberia joins several NATO nations and Australia in supporting the PSI, which Bush has vowed to "extend as broadly as possible to keep the world's most destructive weapons away from our shores and out of the hands of our common enemies."

— Alan W. Dowd



Members of the Navy's Vessel, Board, Search, and Seizure team conduct Maritime Interception Operation training. A new accord will allow the U.S. Navy to board and search Liberia-flagged vessels suspected of hauling weapons of mass destruction. **U.S. Navy**

The many faces of asthma

Evidence separates the disease between children and adults.

A study in the the *Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology* adds to the growing body of evidence that asthma is not a single disease but a group of syndromes with different origins and biological characteristics.

People who develop asthma as children, the report suggests, may have a different disease than those who develop it as an adult.

The research team, led by Dr. Sally Wenzel, a pulmonologist at National Jewish Medical and Research Center, also found that the absence or presence of inflammatory cells called eosinophils helped distinguish differences among asthma patients.

"We found that patients whose asthma began in childhood were more frequently allergic than those whose asthma began as adults, while adult-onset asthma was associated with more rapid loss of lung function," Wenzel said. "We were surprised to find that many patients showed no signs of inflammation, generally considered a hallmark of the asthma, yet they still had severe airflow limitation and many asthma symptoms."

The study marks the first time that a research team has combined information from a detailed questionnaire with extensive biological data to define subsets of asthma patients.

This data could help physicians better diagnose and treat their asthma patients and make better predictions about the course of their disease. The data also may help guide the search for genetic causes of the disease.

More than 75 percent of patients who developed asthma before age 12 reported that they wheezed "most or all of the time" when exposed to dust or pollens, while less than 40 percent of patients whose asthma developed after 12 did so. Patients with early-onset asthma also were more likely to respond positively



Doug Rollison

to allergens in a skin test and to have had eczema, an allergic skin disease.

Although early-onset patients had the disease, on average, almost twice as long as the late-onset patients, lung function was slightly worse in the late-onset group, suggesting that patients with late-onset disease suffer a more rapid loss of lung function.

The pattern of inflammation also differed, depending upon the age of onset. Late-onset patients were more likely than early-onset patients to have inflammatory cells known as eosinophils in their airways, despite treatment with powerful oral steroids. Early-onset patients also showed a pattern of inflammation more frequently associated with allergies than did late-onset patients.

"Asthma has traditionally been very broadly defined in terms of symptoms rather than underlying biological processes," Wenzel said. "Our research helped us divide these severe asthma patients into four subsets, based on age of onset and presence or

absence of eosinophils. We believe these subsets represent different biological processes and mechanisms of steroid resistance."

The definition of these subsets could help guide diagnosis, treatment and future research. For example, since early-onset patients were more often allergic than late-onset patients, treatments would be more likely to include an anti-allergy component. Late-onset patients without eosinophils may have a completely different disease associated with infection or gastroesophageal reflux.

These subsets also might help guide a search for genes associated with asthma, which has, so far, proven difficult.

Source: National Jewish Medical and Research Center

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Is heart disease in your genes?

Scientists at the Cleveland Clinic have pinpointed a gene that could explain why some people are predisposed to premature coronary artery disease and heart attack. The research was published in the February issue of the *American Journal of Human Genetics*.

The discovery brings geneticists closer to identifying an underlying gene responsible for the most aggressive form of coronary heart disease, the leading cause of death in the Western world, said Dr. Eric J. Topol, chairman of the Department of Cardiovascular Medicine at the Cleveland Clinic.

Future research will focus on narrowing and refining the search.

By discovering the molecular



Stockbyte

mechanism for the origin and development of premature heart disease, scientists hope to develop more effective ways to control it.

The gene's location was discovered by examining the genetic

makeup of 428 families who suffered premature heart attack or coronary artery disease. Each family had at least two siblings with premature CAD. To control other risk factors, individuals with high cholesterol and insulin-dependent diabetes were excluded from the study.

The study was limited to men 45 and younger and women 50 and younger at the time they experienced heart attacks.

Less than 1 in 10 million people in the general population

without premature heart disease are affected.

Source: Cleveland Clinic Foundation and *American Journal of Human Genetics*

FDA speeds prescription-to-OTC process

Responding in part to growing public concern about rising spending on prescription medicines, the FDA will accelerate the switching of prescription medicines to over-the-counter status, according to the Tufts Center for the Study of Drug Development.

Supporting the effort are the drug companies themselves, as well as third-party payers, the center reports in "Outlook 2004," which examines drug and biotech development trends.

Consumers, especially those who pay out of pocket for prescription medicines, would find the change to over-the-counter status usually means lower prices for those products, Tufts Center Director Kenneth I. Kaitin said.

People whose health-insurance plans offer some drug benefits frequently do not

benefit from such a switch in status, since insurers typically don't cover the cost of over-the-counter drugs. At the same time, insurers often raise co-pays for prescription-only drugs remaining on formulary in the same therapeutic category.



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The Tufts Center's "Outlook 2004" also notes:

■ Up to 15 blockbuster drugs – each with more than \$1 billion in annual sales – are due to lose patent protection through 2008 and are candidates for prescription to over-the-counter switches.

■ The overhaul of Medicare, due to take effect in 2006, which explicitly prevents the federal government from negotiating drug prices with pharmaceutical firms, will increase pressure on private pharmacy-benefit managers to be more forthcoming about negotiated prices and rebates to health plans, employers and beneficiaries.

■ To cut costs, at least 10 state Medicaid agencies will establish restricted formularies and expand disease-management programs.

Source: Tufts Center for the Study of Drug Development

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Doctor Tips on Bowel Pain & Irritable Bowel

By Dr. Ron Gellatley

Did you know that bowel pain and irritable bowel may be symptoms of a wasted-clogged bowel? In fact, you'll be astonished to learn that a lot of diseases that seem to have little to do with your bowel are actually caused by a bowel suffocating with undischarged wastes. These wastes can slowly poison your system and contribute to a variety of health problems.

Do you suffer from any of these complaints?

Stomach problems, migraines, headaches, backaches, candida, low motivation, lack of energy and low immunity. Even arthritis has been linked to bowel problems.

Death really does begin in the waste clogged bowel. The trouble is that few people realize their bowel is clogged – the reality is that very few of us are aware that we are carrying a load of poisonous wastes in our bowel.

We think our problems have other causes. We do not understand that these wastes are affecting every cell and every tissue in our body. We cannot understand why we are tired all the time or why we have difficulty with moodiness and cannot cope. All too often our problems come from our bowel.

Look at it this way, **if you carry poisons in your bowel they must seep into your bloodstream.**

Your blood goes to every part of your body, including your brain.

How can anyone think clearly if the blood feeding their brain contains waste which should be in the sewer?

No wonder people wake up sometimes and feel their brain is stuffed with cotton.

Illness emanating from bowel problems is costing the country millions of dollars in sickness.

How much misery does irritable bowel, diverticulitis and stomach ulcers cause? What about constipation, the curse of modern civilization? It makes people feel ill all the time, causes sick headaches, lowers energy and slowly poisons us.

Your quality of life can be dictated by your bowel. It is hard to be the life of the party if your bowel is not performing properly.

How can anyone be full of joy with an irritable bowel? Look around you, where are all the happy people?

My new book, "Internal Health-The Key to Youth and Vitality" (already a best seller in Australia) is packed with vital information:

- You will find natural ways to rid yourself of constipation.
- You will find simple ways to bear irritable bowel.
- Discover the vitamin which is essential if you suffer from diverticulitis.
- Why put up with bloating, wind and indigestion if you don't have to?
- Most people who are constipated take fiber. Find out why some fibers can make your condition worse, not better.
- Antibiotics seem to be given out for almost everything and you should find out what they can do to you.
- Why do children who take a lot of antibiotics seem to catch everything that is going around?
- Find out what we all must do after taking antibiotics. The book explains why eating yogurt will not do for you what you think it is doing.

You can find all this information and much more in

this fascinating book.

If you want to feel better, if you want to have boundless energy, if you want to feel terrific most of the time, regardless of your age, then this book is for you. I have discovered in over 15 years of practice that the major cause of feeling your age, loss of energy and ill health is an internal system that is not working.

How can anyone feel full of the joy of living with a colon that is full of wastes, a colon where the lining is inflamed, full of pain and poisoned with waste?

If you suffer with diverticulitis, constipation, irritable bowel, bloating and wind, this book is a must read! You learn step-by-step how to supercharge your entire digestive system... and you can feel better than you have in years.

This amazing book is already a best seller in Australia having sold for \$32.95 each. Right now as part of a special U.S. edition introductory offer, you can order a special press run of "Internal Health: The Key to Youth and Vitality" for only \$12.95 plus \$2.00 shipping. It comes with a 90 day money back guarantee. If you are not 100% satisfied, simply return it for a full refund – no questions asked.

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HERE'S HOW TO ORDER: Simply PRINT your name and address and the words "Internal Health" on a piece of paper and mail it along with a check or money order to: THE LEADER CO., INC., Publishing Division, Dept. IH736, P.O. Box 8347, Canton, OH 44711. VISA or MasterCard send card number and expiration date. Act now. Orders will be fulfilled on a first come, first served basis.

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National Convention highlights tours, events

Members of The American Legion family and their guests may wish to take advantage of several tours offered during the 2004 National Convention in Nashville, Tenn., Aug. 27 to Sept. 2, including:

Grand Ole Nashville: Visit the homes of country legends such as Martina McBride, Ronnie Milsap, the late Hank Williams and Tammy Wynette, along with other points of interest.

Opry Legends: See the homes of legendary Grand Ole Opry performers, including Porter Wagoner, Roy Acuff, Johnny Cash, Conway Twitty, Ricky Skaggs and others. Includes a tour and wine tasting at Stu Phillips' Long Hollow Winery.

Music Country: Takes you by the homes of such stars as Alan Jackson, Dolly Parton, Brooks & Dunn, George Jones, Lorrienne Crook and Little Jimmy Dickens.

The Hermitage: Includes a guided tour of the Hermitage, the beautifully restored mansion of President Andrew Jackson, and some of Nashville's most stately, restored antebellum homes.



Numerous statues, memorials and historical monuments can be found on the Tennessee capitol building grounds. *James V. Carroll*



Tennessee native and World War I Medal of Honor recipient Sgt. Alvin C. York is one of many state heroes and dignitaries honored on statehouse grounds in downtown Nashville. *James V. Carroll*

Historic Mansions: Visit Belle Meade Mansion, the "Queen of Tennessee Plantations" and other historic sites.

Country Music Hall of Fame: Tour the new Country Music Hall of Fame and visit RCA's Studio B, where Elvis Presley recorded several of his greatest hits. See memorabilia of America's favorite country stars, as well as Presley's '61 Cadillac and a wall of gold and platinum records.

Jack Daniel's Brewery: Visit historic Lynchburg, about two hours from Nashville, and see how the famous Jack Daniel's whiskey has been produced for more than 125 years. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places by the U.S. government, Jack Daniel's is the oldest registered distillery in the United States.

Grand Ole Opry: This legendary show is the undisputed "home of country music" and an attraction for millions of visitors from around the world. Shows are on Tuesday, Friday and Saturday nights.

Aug. 28 is American Legion Family Night at the Grand Ole Opry, with National Commander John Brieden and his wife, Terry,

appearing on stage. The program starts at 6:30 p.m.

Additional attractions include:

- Gen. Jackson Showboat's lunch and dinner cruises
- Delta River Flatboat Tours
- Springhouse Golf Club
- Wildhorse Saloon

Legionnaires can visit the Legion Web site for additional information about the National Convention, including meeting locations and times, transportation arrangements, department housing locations and more.

Ticket information

Call: (615) 871-6779

Mention code N-AMLGN. Call-center hours: Monday-Thursday 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Friday 8 a.m.-7:45 p.m., Saturday 8 a.m.-8:15 p.m.

Online: www.legion.org

Click on "Programs and Events."

To purchase tickets via U.S. Mail, download the "Additional Activities Registration Form" from the Legion Web site and mail it to:

Gaylord Attractions
Attn: Optional Program, 2802 Opryland Drive, Nashville, TN 37214

Texas vet named Hospital Volunteer of the Year

John O. Casey of Waxahachie, Texas, is a busy man. As a VA Voluntary Services worker at the Dallas VA Medical Center, the 81-year-old doesn't earn a penny and he doesn't seek the limelight. But the limelight found him.

In March, during the Legion's 44th Washington Conference, American Legion National Commander John Brieden presented Casey with the Legion's 2004 VAVS Hospital Volunteer of the Year Award, commending him for donating so much time to helping veterans. Casey received a plaque and a cap recognizing him as "Volunteer of the Year."

Casey is one of nearly 7,000 American Legion volunteers who collectively donate more than



2004 VAVS Hospital Volunteer of the Year John O. Casey. *James V. Carroll*

960,000 hours annually to VAVS. A World War II Navy veteran, Casey

has given more than 13,000 hours during his 27 years in VAVS.

"The rehabilitation of the veteran is one of the founding pillars of The American Legion," Brieden said. "Mr. Casey's volunteerism at the Dallas VA hospital reflects great credit upon his own character as well as The American Legion's founding tradition of service to those who sacrificed for freedom. VAVS volunteers such as John Casey demonstrate, by their good deeds, that we will not fail those with whom we serve."

Casey was employed at the Dallas VA hospital for 32 years, as an engineering supervisor, prior to his retirement in 1988. He is a member of Harding Blaine Post 321 in Plano, Texas.

Legion honors 'JAG' creator



Karri Turner, who plays "Lt. Harriet Sims" on the CBS television program "JAG," shows off the American Legion National Commander's Public Relations Award during the Legion's Washington Conference in March. *Sandy Schaeffer*

Donald P. Bellisario, creator of the television series "JAG" and "Navy NCIS," received the American Legion National Commander's Public Relations Award for promoting the honorable nature of military service through stories featured on "JAG," a weekly CBS television

program. Karri Turner, who plays "Lt. Harriet Sims" on "JAG," accepted the award for Bellisario and the entire cast and crew at the Hyatt-Regency Capitol Hill during the Legion's 44th annual Washington Conference in March.

"JAG" is a one-hour, dramatic series that follows the adventures

of the Judge Advocate General team as it investigates, defends and prosecutes military-related cases from a base near Washington. The series, which celebrated its 200th episode on March 12, portrays the JAG team conducting investigations aboard ships at Navy and Marine Corps installations and overseas locations. It provides viewers a realistic appreciation for the operational environments in which today's young men and women in uniform are serving their country.

"JAG" enables millions of Americans to appreciate the dedication of not only the Judge Advocate General Corps but all who serve in the armed forces," National Commander John Brieden said. "The strict adherence to actual Navy and Marine Corps operations, customs and traditions is appreciated by veterans and inspirational to young citizens considering military service as a career."

Past recipients of the award include NASCAR, Wal-Mart, Ambassador Alan Keyes, NBC's Tom Brokaw and entertainer Wayne Newton.

Art pays tribute to World War II generation

In conjunction with the National World War II Memorial dedication, an art exhibition titled "Norman Rockwell's Four Freedoms: Paintings That Inspired a Nation" – co-sponsored by the Corcoran Gallery of Art and the Norman Rockwell Museum – will be displayed in Washington.

Inspired by President Franklin D. Roosevelt's Jan. 6, 1941, speech to a joint session of Congress, Rockwell addressed America's fundamental freedoms in four pieces: "Freedom of Speech," "Freedom from Want," "Freedom of Worship" and "Freedom from Fear."

The "Four Freedoms" will be on display from May 15 to Sept. 6, 2004, at the Corcoran Gallery of Art, New York Avenue and 17th Street, N.W., Washington.

"The Four Freedoms" appeared in the pages of *The Saturday Evening Post* magazine for four consecutive weeks, from Feb. 20, 1943, to March 6, 1943. Rockwell's paintings went on a multi-city tour, premiering in April 1943 at the Hecht Co. department store in Washington. The traveling exhibition raised \$132 million in war-bond purchases.

Part of a citywide tourism initiative in Washington to pay tribute to the World War II generation, the exhibition places



"Freedom of Speech" is one of Norman Rockwell's "Four Freedoms" paintings on display at the Corcoran Gallery of Art in Washington this summer. *Curtis Publishing*

the paintings in historical context by including a variety of archival materials loaned to the Corcoran by the Norman Rockwell Museum: newsreels, war-bond posters, photographs, war bonds and stamps.

"The Corcoran is the perfect venue for this exhibition, given the museum's close proximity to the World War II monument and the White House," said Laurie Norton Moffatt, director of the Norman Rockwell Museum. "Rockwell's paintings became enduring national symbols; his images captured the essence of President Roosevelt's speech and illustrated for ordinary Americans the purpose of America's growing involvement in the war."

For more info

Call: (202) 639-1700

Online: www.corcoran.org

Lodging for memorial dedication

Openings recently became available at the following hotels offering discounts to Legionnaires attending the National World War II Memorial dedication. Members of The American Legion family are encouraged to contact the hotels for availability.

Courtyard by Marriott, Embassy Row

1600 Rhode Island Ave. N.W., Washington, DC 20036, (800) 321-2211 or (202) 293-8000.

Marriott Key Bridge: 1401 Lee Highway, Arlington, VA 22209, (800) 228-9290 or (703) 524-6400.

Marriott Crystal City: 1999 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA 22202, (800) 228-9290 or (703) 413-5500.

To inquire about alternative housing arrangements, contact Dick Holmes or Jennifer Zellers, The American Legion National Convention Division, at (317) 630-1292 or (317) 630-1313, or e-mail rdholmes@legion.org or jzellers@legion.org.

Registry available

American Legion posts can now register their World War II National Dedication Day community events on the Legion Web site by completing an online form.

Log on

www.legion.org/ww2

At the same Web address, individuals can register for the candlelight walk in Washington on

Memorial Day weekend or make a secure, online donation to the National World War II Memorial. Anyone who makes a contribution will receive a signed certificate of appreciation. Any donation exceeding \$100 qualifies for a limited-edition World War II National Dedication Day commemorative video.

Airlines offer Legionnaires travel discounts

Four major airlines are offering travel discounts to members of The American Legion family who plan to attend the National World War II Memorial dedication ceremony in Washington on Memorial Day weekend. Legionnaires should reserve directly through the airlines, not through The American Legion.

When making airline reservations, use the following telephone numbers and reference codes:

Northwest Airlines

(800) 328-1111. Refer to World File No. NM3SZ.

American Airlines

(800) 433-1790. Refer to Index No. 16882.

US Airways

(877) 874-7687. Refer to Gold File No. 1661-2946.

United Airlines

(800) 521-4041. Refer to Tour Code No. 500ZV.

Web site builds voter awareness

The 2004 election year – from local races to the presidency – is one of unprecedented importance to veterans and those now serving, says American Legion National Commander John Brieden. An informed vote, he adds, depends on asking the right questions of those who seek office.

That's why the Legion has launched "Impact 2004," a campaign to build voter awareness and candidate accountability. Brieden unveiled the plan at the Legion's 44th annual Washington Conference in March.

"Good government derives its consent from the governed, and Impact 2004 will turn up the volume of the people's voices so that, ideally, our candidates will listen," Brieden said. "The American Legion does not endorse candidates or take sides in elections. Instead, our function is to inform voters – especially veterans and active-duty, Guard and Reserve personnel – so they can use that information to determine

who is worthy of their votes. We will make certain our members and other concerned citizens make their presence felt at the polls."

On May 15, Armed Forces Day, the Legion will officially activate its election Web site: www.impact04.legion.org. The site is currently available to users wishing to visit the Legion's online Legislative Action Center. Visitors can enter their ZIP codes and find information on their local candidates. The site also includes the Legion's positions on various issues and legislation.

Voters are encouraged to visit the Impact 2004 Web site to select issues on which they seek answers from President George W. Bush and Democratic presidential



nominee Sen. John Kerry. The Web site will post responses from the candidates on major issues and offer links to voter resources, including voting information for military personnel.

In addition, *The American Legion Magazine* has requested interviews with Bush and Kerry, and it will publish commentaries by

House Speaker J. Dennis Hastert and House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi in its September issue.

"Ordinary Americans, from all walks of life, laid down their lives in defense of our republic," Brieden says. "It's up to ordinary Americans, from all walks of life, to exercise their constitutional rights so that, as President Lincoln said, 'government of the people, by the people, for the people shall not perish from the earth.'"

Post aids Olympic skeleton team star

Katie Koczynski, a 2006 U.S. Olympic hopeful from Upper Nyack, N.Y., didn't have to look



Olympic skeleton team hopeful Katie Koczynski is sponsored in part by Pomona, N.Y., Legion Post 1600. *Courtesy Katie Koczynski*

far to find a sponsor. Pomona, N.Y., American Legion Post 1600 pitched in without even being asked. Post 1600 knew of Koczynski because her grandparents, Robert and Dorothy Hooper – both now deceased – were active in the local Legion family. Her grandfather was a past post commander, and her grandmother was an auxiliary member.

Koczynski, a 23-year-old Columbia University student, has competed throughout the world in international competitions in hopes of joining the 2006 U.S. Olympic skeleton team. Her love of the sport began in eighth grade. She saw an ad seeking youth her age to try out for the U.S. junior luge team. When she didn't qualify for luge, she tried out for the U.S. bobsled team. While she qualified in speed, she didn't meet height or weight requirements. However, her dedication and hard

work finally paid off in 1999 when she qualified for the U.S. National skeleton team. She was an alternate in the 2002 Games. Skeleton sledding is a one-person, high-speed sledding sport that hits up to 80 mph on the same types of refrigerated tracks used for bobsled and luge.

Members of Post 1600 heard of the athlete's triumphs from her grandparents and knew she would need a sponsor to pay for her equipment and for trips to competitions. The post has donated thousands of dollars to help Koczynski reach her Olympic goals, including a recent purchase of a new \$3,000 sled. She finished the 2003-2004 World Cup season ranked second in the United States and ninth in the world.

"I never ask the post for money," Koczynski said. "They simply ask what I need, and they always give generously."

How to Submit a Reunion

The American Legion Magazine publishes reunion notices for veterans. Send notices to *The American Legion Magazine*, Attn: Reunions, P.O. Box 1055, Indianapolis, IN 46206, fax (317) 630-1280 or e-mail reunions@legion.org.

Include the branch of service and complete name of the group, no abbreviations, with your request. The listing also should include the reunion dates and city, along with a contact name, telephone number and e-mail address. Listings are published free of charge.

Due to the large number of reunions, *The American Legion Magazine* will publish a group's listing only once a year. Notices should be sent at least six months prior to the reunion to ensure timely publication.

Other Notices

"In Search Of" is a means of getting in touch with people from your unit to plan a reunion. We do not publish listings that seek people for interviews, research purposes, military photos or help in filing a VA claim. Listings must include the name of the unit from which you seek people, the time period and the location, as well as a contact name, tele-

phone number and e-mail address. Send notices to *The American Legion Magazine*, Attn: "In Search Of," P.O. Box 1055, Indianapolis, IN 46206, fax (317) 630-1280 or e-mail reunions@legion.org.

The magazine will not publish the names of individuals, only the name of the unit from which you seek people. Listings are published free of charge.

Life Membership notices are published for Legionnaires who have been awarded life memberships by their posts. This does not include a member's own Paid-Up-For-Life membership. Notices must be submitted on official forms, which may be obtained by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to *The American Legion Magazine*, Attn: Life Memberships, P.O. Box 1055, Indianapolis, IN 46206.

"Comrades in Distress" listings must be approved by the Legion's Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation division. If you are seeking to verify an injury received during service, contact your Legion department service officer for information on how to publish a notice.

To respond to a "Comrades in Distress" listing, send a letter to *The American Legion Magazine*, Attn: Comrades in Distress, P.O. Box 1055, Indianapolis, IN 46206. Include the listing's CID number in your response.

"Taps" notices are published only for Legionnaires who served as department commanders or national officers.

AIR FORCE/ARMY AIR FORCES

1st Radio Relay Sqdn, Branson, MO, 9/6-8, William Hayton, (304) 486-5349, falcon1hayton@webtv.net; **2nd Aircraft Repair Unit Float**, New Orleans, 10/13-16, Daniel Tiberie, (724) 239-5644, dntjet@bentcom.net; **4th Emerg Rescue Sqdn Assn**, Corpus Christi, TX, 10/13-17, Chet Gunn, (781) 944-6616, tightboot@msn.com; **5th AF 5th, 108th Stat Hosp (WWII)**, Louisville, KY, 9/19-23, Jeff Seabock, (828) 324-6464; **5th AF 8th Ftr Grp Assn 33rd, 35th, 36th, 80th, 8th Ftr Cont & Support Sqdns**, Dayton, OH, 9/23-25, John Mark, (847) 678-5075, onmarkp51@aol.com; **5th AF 80th Serv Grp (WWII)**, Louisville, KY, 9/19-23, Virgil Staples, (515) 225-8454; **5th AF 405th Sig Co (Avn)**, Louisville, KY, 9/19-23, Phil Treacy, (810) 775-5238; **5th AF 502nd Tact Cont Grp (Korea)**, Fred Gorsek Jr., (217) 968-5411; **5th AF HQ & HQ Sqdn 314th Comp Wing (WWII, Korea)**, Louisville, KY, 9/19-23, Louis Buddo, (314) 487-8128

5th AF HQ VBC 5th Bomb Cmd (WWII), Louisville, KY, 9/19-23, Bob Kendall, (314) 487-8128; **5th Cbt Comm Grp (5th MOB)**, Warner Robins, GA, 5/13-15, Richard Gillis, (478) 922-1377, rtgillis@cox.net; **7th Bomb Grp**, Salt Lake City, 6/16-20, Tom Sledge, (409) 945-9735, tesledge@aol.com; **8th AF 457th Bomb Grp 748th, 749th, 750th & 751st Sqdns**, Peterborough, England, 5/29-6/2, Will Fluman, (717) 258-3090, oakgrove35@aol.com; **9th Air Corps 373rd Ftr Grp 410th, 411th & 412th Ftr Sqdns (WWII)**, Laurel, MD, 9/20-24, John Kinn, 411 Oakland Ave., Sandusky, OH 44870, johnkinn4@aol.com; **13th AF Vets Assn**, Springfield, MO, 10/13-16, R. Al Wright, (918) 396-1380, ronald-wright@webtv.net; **28th Bomb Wing (Ellsworth AFB)**, Rapid City, SD, 8/26-30, Robert Heller, (605) 721-3023; **38th Army Eng Rgt (WWII)**, Parkersburg, WV, 9/20-22, D.H. Netzly, (330) 832-9744, dhnetz@aol.com

50th Tact Ftr Wing POL & Base Supply (Hahn AFB, Germany), San Antonio, 8/11-14, (623) 876-9564, busiasu@aol.com; **51st Ftr Interceptor Wing Assn**, Albany, NY, 9/9-11, Harry Bauser, (845) 246-5818, truhar@localnet.com; **78th Ftr Sqdn (All Snakes)**, Orlando, FL, 4/22-24, Paul Spillane, (518) 373-2874; **98th Bomb Wing/Grp Vets Assn**, Arlington, VA, 9/7-11, Dennis Posey, (770) 509-7734, dposey@comcast.net; **156th FA Bn 44th Inf Div**, St. Charles, MO, 9/9-12, Glen C. Edquist, (269) 683-6482; **300th Armd FA Bn (Korea)**, Sheridan, WY, 9/10-12, Bill Laya, (307) 655-9812, laya@fiberpipe.net; **302nd College Tng Det (Knox College, 1943-1944)**, Galesburg, IL, 6/4-5, Megan Clayton, (309) 341-7476, pclayton@knox.edu; **306th Field Maint Sqdn (MacDill AFB)**, Tampa, FL, 10/21-23, C.B. Till, (321) 269-2420, ctill@cfi.rr.com; **312th Bomb Grp (L) Assn 5th AF SWPA (WWII)**, Washington, 9/29-10/2, John Happy, (863) 439-6657, jthappy@juno.com; **319th Ftr**

Intercept Sqdn, Tacoma, WA, 9/15-19, David Headen, (207) 258-5633, dwheaden@charter.net; **345th Bomb Grp**, Reno, NV, 9/1-4, Lynn Daker, (303) 444-6489, lwdwed@dim.com; **391st Bomb Grp 9th AAF**, Kansas City, MO, 10/1-3, Bill Graves, (256) 534-6711; **450th Bomb Grp (H)**, New Orleans, 9/1-5, Al Goodman, (847) 543-8381, gobaral@aol.com; **490th Bomb Grp (H)**, Natchez, MS, 9/26-30, Homer King, (601) 445-4178, hhkingret@copper.net; **551st AEW&C Wing Otis AFB (Texas Towers & N Truro Radar)**, Dayton, OH, 9/16-18, Floyd Shank, (508) 746-5713, easy12@adelphia.net; **601st Tact Cont Wing & Subord Units (Germany, 1945-1995)**, Omaha, NE, 9/29-10/2, John Haggard, (520) 298-8208, haphagg@aol.com; **604th, 616th AC&W Sqdns (Freising, Germany)**, Las Vegas, 10/19-21, Mike Torma, (219) 872-5539, miketorma@yahoo.com

610th, 618th & 850th AC&W Sqdn 527th AC&W Grp, Branson, MO, 9/12-15, Marvin Jordahl, (904) 739-9337, jordahlmarvin@comcast.net; **AF Reserve Recruiter Alumni Assn**, Denver, 6/24-27, Gene Tomczak, (303) 751-5531, chiefgene7@aol.com; **Bolling AFB B-25 Bunch**, Biloxi, MO, 5/23-27, C.J. Smith, (937) 375-4671; **Delta Flt 2167 Comm Sqdn (RAF Chicksands, England, 1963-1970)**, Pensacola, FL, 8/7, Larry Churchill, (850) 497-8179, lshill@cox.net; **SAC Elite Guard**, Omaha, NE, 7/23-24, Bill Marshall, (949) 361-1770, gtogeto@aol.com; **SAC MSET**, Omaha, NE, 10/8-10, Mike Aube, (402) 292-3289, rmaube@cox.net; **Sampson AFB NY Vets Fellowship**, Allentown, PA, 9/13-17, Walt Steesy, (607) 532-4204, samafbvets@aol.com; **Wildwood AFS Alaska**, Lexington, KY, 5/15-18, Jim Fetrow, (616) 887-7783, fetrowj590@ameritech.net

ARMY

1st Sqdn 9th Cav (Fort Benning & Vietnam), Dothan, AL, 10/8-10, Al DeFleron, (334) 692-5685, aldefleron@snowhill.com; **2nd Armd Div Assn (All Eras)**, Houston, 8/11-14, Lewis Bogart, (570) 546-9415; **3rd Armd Div Vets Assn "Spearhead"**, Columbus, OH, 7/14-18, Carl Erickson, (301) 520-3275, astridcarl@aol.com; **4th Cav Assn (WWII)**, Sturgis, SD, 9/9-11, Merton Glover, (605) 787-5536, mmglove@rap.midco.net; **6th Bn 33rd Arty I Corps Arty (Vietnam)**, Branson, MO, 7/2-4, Clyde Lewandowski, (320) 253-1690, 4clew@warpedriveonline.com; **6th Cav & Attached Units**, Chattanooga, TN, 6/11-13, Preulow Brown, (615) 895-0817, sixcav1941@aol.com; **7th Cav (1950-1951)**, Branson, MO, 9/8-11, Rene Gonzalez, (760) 752-1908, renesco@earthlink.net; **7th Inf Rgt Assn "Cottonbalers"**, Savannah, GA, 8/27-30, Curley Faulk, (337) 625-8359, csmaar@aol.com; **9th Inf Div Assn (WWII)**, Monticello, NY, 5/10-13, Joe Killen, (516) 561-7346, growlybearg47@yahoo.com; **10th Armd Div (WWII)**, Arlington, VA, 9/3-5, Tom Bubin,

(269) 342-0115, tbubin@hazardlabel.com; **10th Mount Div**, French Lick, IN, 10/10-15, Robert Foreman, (217) 442-8061; **11th Eng Cbt Bn**, Branson, MO, 9/24-26, Ernie Seyour, (503) 241-3445, ernies26@msn.com; **13th Eng Cbt Bn Assn**, San Antonio, 10/14-17, Levi Haire, (404) 366-9891, rabbit713e@comcast.net; **14th Armd Div**, Cedar Rapids, IA, 9/8-12, Horst Froelich, (715) 745-6954, hgfc@ezwebtech.com; **15th AF 460th Bomb Grp (H)**, Washington, 9/9-12, Duane Bohnstedt, (941) 637-8590, dljb460@aol.com; **17th Sig Bn Assn**, San Antonio, 9/16-19, Jerry Grady, (520) 297-0632, jgrady22@comcast.net; **19th Cbt Eng Bn Assn (Vietnam)**, Waynesville, MO, 9/10-11, Tom Ebrite, (765) 759-7820, s2snoopy@comcast.net; **19th Cbt Eng Rgt (WWII)**, Pigeon Forge, TN, 9/19-23, Debra King, (618) 930-5213; **23rd Inf Rgt (Korean War)**, Rapid City, SD, 8/31-9/4, Jim Coulos, (630) 232-2042

24th Inf Rgt Cbt Team, Lansing, MI, 7/21-25, Wilfred Matthews, (337) 477-4508, wm24thinfrct@aol.com; **26th Inf Div "Yankee"**, Lexington, MA, 6/10-12, Sam Thompson, (508) 285-4656; **27th FA Rgt Assn**, Nashville, TN, 8/13-15, James R. Seussmann, (973) 357-0033, jrs.cpa@verizon.net; **35th Inf Div**, El Paso, TX, 10/6-10, Abelardo Navarrete, (915) 598-0183; **38th Cbt Eng Rgt**, Parkersburg, WV, 9/20-22, Dwight Netzly, (330) 832-9744, dhnetz@aol.com; **40th Inf Div 160th Inf Rgt 2nd Bn E & F Cos**, Kearney, NE, 8/27-29, Paul Swartz, (724) 662-2269, phswartz@infonline.net; **45th FA Bn 8th Inf Div (WWII)**, Washington, 5/27-29, Brad Rice, (901) 682-5784; **45th Div 279th Inf Rgt L Co**, Wagoner, OK, 10/21-24, Paul Elkins, (907) 260-6612, p.s.elkins@att.net; **50th Cbt Eng A & C Cos**, Albert Lea, MN, 7/23-25, Kermith Twito, (507) 373-6641

55th FA Bn (WWII), Gettysburg, PA, 9/22-24, Edward Pasarella, (410) 742-7046, lithahart25@beachin.net; **68th Med Rgt (Camp Forest, TN & Europe, WWII)**, Schaumburg, IL, 6/17-19, Kenneth Smith, (847) 635-7619; **70th Inf Div "Trailblazers"**, Arlington Heights, IL, 9/2-5, Louis Hoyer, (913) 722-2024, hogeria@juno.com; **73rd Eng Cbt Bn (Korea, 1950-1955)**, Abbeville, LA, 9/10-12, Carl Petry, (337) 893-2260; **75th Ranger Rgt Assn (Nellingen, Germany, 1961-1969)**, Seattle, 7/31-8/4, Joe Chetwynd, (781) 826-2259, viillrrpabnhq@juno.com; **82nd FA**, Lafayette, IN, 6/9-12, Alva Snider, (765) 762-2032, ahs@localline.com; **83rd Arty**, Fort Sill, OK, 5/14-16, Al Schuller, (916) 990-0508, a.schuller@att.net; **84th Inf Div Railsplitter Society (WWII)**, Indianapolis, 8/14-17, Clarence Weddle, (317) 784-9325; **90th Chem Mortar Bn**, Myrtle Beach, SC, 10/3-7, Vernon Lucas, (828) 296-1406, usa90cmb@aol.com; **90th FA Bn 25th Inf Div (Korean War)**, Oklahoma City, 10/20-23, Leroy Rorange, (414) 761-2701, lobster90thfa@aol.com; **125th AAA Gun Bn (WWII)**, St. Clairsville, OH, 7/25-27,

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200th Eng, Lincoln, NE, 9/1-23, Bill Smith, (402) 488-0180; **235th Obsn Bn**, Pioneer, OH, 9/8-11, Robert Gamboe, (419) 737-2418; **244th Port Co 495th Port Bn**, Marriana, FL, 6/5, Charles Helton, 105 Chappell St., Scottsboro, AL 35768, sarge244@scottsboro.org; **255th FA Bn XII Corps 3rd Army (WWII)**, Terre Haute, IN, 9/10-12, Marvin George, (661) 835-7375; **292nd Eng Cbt Bn**, Oakbrook, IL, 8/18-20, Joe Petras, 1212 Merrill Ave., Algonquin, IL 60102; **328th Cbt Team (WWII)**, Atlantic City, NJ, 10/16-19, Ed Hauck, (717) 392-4419; **369th EBM (Port Townsend, WA)**, Paducah, KY, 9/13-15, Bob Dougherty, (480) 641-2372, ridough@aol.com; **383rd AAA AW Bn**, Bellville, OH, 8/20-22, Ed Beeching, (419) 347-5255; **385th AAA AW Bn (WWII)**, Greensboro, NC, 6/25-27, Douglass Cochran Sr., 12033 Belvedere Road, Hagerstown, MD 21742

503rd Parachute PCT Assn (WWII), Laughlin, NV, 9/28-10/1, Jack Pittenger, (949) 470-0675; **517th Trust Eng (Triest, Italy)**, Branson, MO, 8/6-8, Amos Morris, (850) 579-4608, ahmorrissr@wfeca.net; **529th FA Obsn Bn (1950-1958)**, Myrtle Beach, SC, 9/30-10/2, Joe Farris, (704) 865-5073, Russ Elam, 503 S. Jefferson, Mahomet, IL 61853, belamr@msn.com; **550th AAA 3rd Army (WWII)**, 9/10-11, Vince Calarco, (716) 326-2320; **559th AAA AW Bn (WWII)**, Atlantic City, NJ, 9/12-15, Herman Ledger, (215) 537-5812, hpl559@comcast.net; **620th Eng Avn Maint Co/916th Eng Avn Supply Co (England, 1950s)**, Lakeland, FL, 5/11-15, Art Chambers, (903) 665-8815, artandmyra@netzero.net; **721st Railway Operating Bn**, Kerhonkson, NY, 9/15-19, E.O. Woods, (315) 458-1482; **748th Railway Operating Bn (WWII)**, Nashville, TN, 9/16-18, Fred Beene, (813) 973-8781, bernmar@mymailstation.com

793rd MP Bn, Chicago, 8/25-28, Frank De Rosa, (847) 255-3977, dfderosa@webtv.net; **804th Eng Avn Bn & Attached Units**, San Antonio, 9/19-22, Ralph Reynolds, (501) 915-9439, elworthy@ipa.net; **804th Stat Hosp (Landstuhl, Germany, 1951-1953)**, Kalamazoo, MI, Jack Heighon, (269) 343-0557; **3119th Sig Serv Bn**, Washington, 9/23-26, Ed Goetz, (919) 460-0506, edgoetz3119@att.net; **ASA 328th Comm/Recon Co (Bad Aibling, Germany, 1952-1955)**, Niagara Falls, NY, 9/16-18, John Arndt, (706) 376-2350, jfarndtga@aol.com; **B & D Cos 7th Inf Rgt 3rd Inf Div**, Henryetta, OK, 5/13-15, Howard Tyler, (405) 257-5747; **C Co 58th Inf LRP (Abn) (Nellingen, Germany, 1961-1969)**, Seattle, 7/31-8/4, Joe Chetwynd, (781) 826-2259, viilrrpabnhq@juno.com; **F Co 747th Maint Bn (1972-1992)**, Camp Ripley, MN, 8/14, Tony Wenzel, (320) 749-2428, chief@fallsnet.com

George Co 200th Inf 31st/8th Inf Div (Sept 1953-Sept 1955), Milwaukee, 9/16-19, James Dottke, (262) 786-9046; **"Guns-A-Go-Go"** **53rd/1st Avn Det 228th ASHB 1st Cav Div**, Huntsville, AL, 7/23-26, Ron Obernier, (256) 313-2032, Ronald.obernier@rdc.redstone.army.mil; **Parachute Rigger & Aerial Supply Unit Vets**, Oak Grove, KY, 6/24-27, Charlie Watts, (859) 299-2348; **US Army Discip Barracks**, Fort Leavenworth, KS, 8/6-8, Calvin Jetton, (703) 780-6385, clj318@aol.com; **US Army Correct Activ Fort Riley**, Fort Leavenworth, KS, 8/6-8, Darryl McCleendon, (703) 490-5381, kdm6951@comcast.net; **VII Corps LRRP Co (Abn) "Jayhawks" (Nellingen, Germany, 1961-1969)**, Seattle, 7/31-8/4, Joe Chetwynd, (781) 826-2259, viilrrpabnhq@juno.com

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Dest Leader Assn - USS Norfolk DL 1, USS Mitscher DL 2/DDG 35, USS John S. McCain DL 3/DDG 36, USS Willis A. Lee DL 4, USS Wilkinson DL 5, Norfolk, VA, 9/16-19, Howard Dobson, howardvaldobson@cs.com; **NAS/NOB Trinidad (FASRON-105, VPB-208, VPMS-8, VP-48, VP-34 & Mar Det)**, Camden, NJ, 9/30-10/2, F.D. Barrett, (870) 496-2285, barrett@ozarkisp.net; **USS Canopus AS 9/34 & Mar Dets, SUBRONS, ARDMS, ASRS**, Reno, NV, 9/30-10/3, Richard Retin, (775) 851-1077, usscanopus@gmail.com; **USS Teton AGC 14 & Army, Mar Dets**, Peabody, MA, 9/12-16, Frank Reda, (386) 672-5481, redefa@juno.com; **USS Philippine Sea CV 47**, Harbor Springs, MI, 9/12-16, Ralph Lund, (215) 345-6430, ralplm@aol.com; **USS Wasp CV/CVA/CVS 18 (1943-1972)**, Annapolis, MD, 9/12-16, Richard VanOver, (716) 649-9043; **USS West Point AP 23**, Milwaukee, 9/22-25, Ken Johnson, (906) 428-3105, kennhelen315@aol.com

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MARINES

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LeRoy Crawford, Dept. of Washington. Dept. Cmdr. 1995-1996.
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Board Memb. 1974-1978, Dept. Cmdr. 1976-1977, Alt. Nat'l Exec. Cmte. Memb. 1979-1981, Nat'l Foreign Relations Cncl. Vice Chmn. 1979-1980 and 2001-2004. Nat'l Americanism Cmsn. Memb. 1979-1982, Nat'l Americanism Cmsn. Liaison Cmte. Memb. 1981-1982, Nat'l Rehab. Advisory Board Memb. 1981-1983, Nat'l Exec. Cmte. Memb. 1981-1999, Nat'l American Legion Magazine Cmsn. Liaison Cmte. Memb. 1982-1984, 1987-1996 and 1998-1999, Nat'l Veterans Affairs & Rehab. Cmsn. Liaison Cmte. Memb. 1984-1985, Nat'l Cmsn. on Children & Youth Liaison Cmte. Memb. 1986-1987, Nat'l American Legion Magazine Cmsn. Liaison Cmte. Chmn. 1996-1998, Nat'l Naval Affairs Cmte. Memb. 1999-2001 and Nat'l Legis. Cncl. Memb. 2001-2004.

H. Glenn Lowe, Dept. of Washington. Nat'l Law & Order Cmte. Memb. 1952-1953, Nat'l Sec. Tng. Cmte. Memb. 1955-1957, Dept. Cmdr. 1957-1958, Nat'l Mbrshp. & Post Activ. Cmte. Memb. 1959-1960 and 1962-1963, Nat'l Amateur Radio Network Cmte. Memb. 1960-1963, Nat'l Civil Defense Cmte. Memb. 1963-1965 and Nat'l Foreign Relations Cmsn. Memb. 1965-1971.

Mae V. Mitchell, Dept. of California. Nat'l Americanism Cncl. Memb. 1962-1963, Nat'l Mbrshp. & Post Activ. Cmte. Memb. 1963-1964 and 1969-1970, Nat'l Cmsn. on Children & Youth Memb. 1970-1980 and 1990-1991, Nat'l Cmsn. on Children & Youth Vice Chmn. 1980-1981, Nat'l Legis. Cncl. Memb. 1987-1990, 1993-1994 and 1999-2000, Nat'l Distinguished Guests Vice Chmn. 1991-1994, Nat'l Americanism Cncl. Vice Chmn. 1996-1999 and Alt. Nat'l Exec. Cmte. Memb. 1998-2000.

Wayne Slade, Dept. of South Dakota. Nat'l Mbrshp. & Post Activ. Cmte. Memb. 1971-1972, Dept. Cmdr. 1972-1973, Alt. Nat'l Exec. Cmte. Memb. 1973-1977, Nat'l Exec. Cmte. Memb. 1977-1981, Nat'l Finance Cmsn. Liaison Cmte. Memb. 1977-1980, Nat'l Econ. Cmsn. Liaison Cmte. Memb. 1980-1981, Nat'l Legis. Cncl. Vice Chmn. 1981-1986, Nat'l Employment Cmte. Memb. 1981-2002 and Nat'l Employment Cmte. Vice Chmn. 1984-2002.

Daniel M. Whealen, Dept. of Texas. Nat'l Legis. Cncl. Memb. 1993-1994, 1999-2000 and 2001-2004, Nat'l Distinguished Guests Cmte. Vice Chmn. 1994-1996, Nat'l Merchant Marine Cmte. Memb. 1996-2003 and Dept. Cmdr. 1998-1999.

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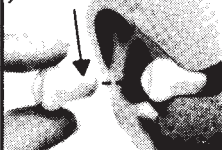
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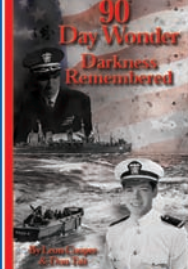
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parting shots

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A SURGEON, AN ARCHITECT

and a politician were considering the question of whose profession was the oldest.

"I think my line of work would win this one hands down," the surgeon said. "After all, Eve was created from Adam's rib, and that sounds like surgery to me."

"Maybe," the architect said, "but before Adam, order was created out of chaos. That was an architectural accomplishment."

"Sure," the politician said. "But before that, someone had to create the chaos."

"THEY SAY when you die there's a light at the end of the tunnel. When my father dies, he'll see the light, make his way toward it and then flip it off to save electricity."

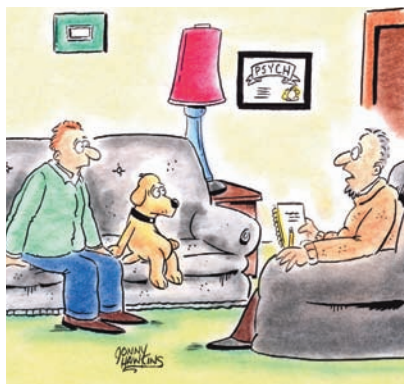
—Harland Williams

HURRY UP AND JOIN

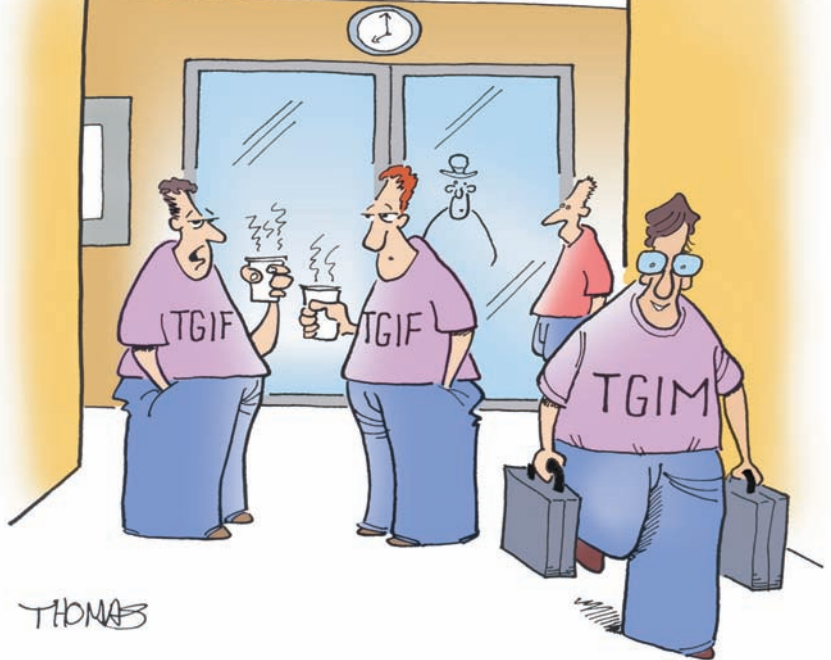
Dear Ma and Pa:

I am well. Hope you are. I sure miss Fla. Tell Brother Walt and Brother Elmer that the Army beats working for old man Minch by a mile. Tell them to join up quick before all the places are filled. I was restless at first because you got to stay in bed till nearly 6 a.m., but am getting so I like to sleep late.

Tell Walt and Elmer all you do before breakfast is smooth your



"It might help Skippy's feelings if you said he needed improvement instead of calling him a bad dog."



"I get this feeling I know who's going to be employee of the month."

cot and shine some things. No hogs to slop, feed to pitch, mash to mix, wood to split, fire to lay. Practically nothing. Men got to shave but it is not so bad, there's warm water.

Breakfast is strong on trimmings like fruit juice, cereal, eggs, bacon, etc., but kind of weak on chops, potatoes, ham, steak, fried eggplant, pie and other regular food. But tell Walt and Elmer you can always sit between two city boys that live on coffee. Their food plus yours holds you till noon, when you get fed again. It's no wonder these city boys can't walk much.

We go on "route marches," which the platoon sergeant says are long walks to harden us. If he thinks so, it is not my place to tell him different. A "route march" is about as far as to our mailbox at home. Then the city guys get sore feet and we all ride back in trucks. The country is nice but awful flat. The sergeant is like a schoolteacher. He nags some.

The captain is like the school board. Majors and colonels just ride around and frown. They don't bother you none.

This next will kill Walt and Elmer with laughing. I keep getting medals for shooting. I don't know why. The bullseye is near as big as a chipmunk head



"You're awfully quiet tonight. If it's something I said, I'd like to remember it for tomorrow."

and don't move. And it ain't shooting at you, like the Higgett boys at home. All you got to do is lie there all comfortable and hit it. You don't even load your own cartridges. They come in boxes.

Then we have what they call hand-to-hand combat training. You get to wrestle with them city boys. I have to be real careful, though. They break real easy. It ain't like fighting with that old bull at home. I'm about the best they got in this except for that Tug Jordan from over in Broward Co. He joined up the same time as me. But I'm only 5'6" and 130 pounds and he's 6'8" and weighs near 300 pounds dry.

Be sure to tell Walt and Elmer to hurry and join before others get onto this setup and come stampeding in.

Your loving daughter,
Gail



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